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Celebrity pg 49

Paquin doesn't mind a little AC/DC

It's not fake, it's just not real: Harper

G8 SUMMIT Stephen Harper says it's actually not a fake lake. In an aggressive defence of the government's plan to spend $1.9 million on a summit display that includes an artificial lake, the prime minister is calling it a well-planned "marketing pavilion" that will promote Canadian tourism.

The government argues the indoor lake itself only costs $57,000 and the rest of the $1.9-million display is well worth it because it could encourage 3,000 journalists to tell the world how wonderful Canada is. At least $1.2 billion is being budgeted for security, hospitality and infrastructure for the two summits later this month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CHIN up

ROGER CULLMAN/FOR METRO TORONTO

Miss CHIN bikini 2009 winner, Kaitlyn Wong, poses with 2010 contestants yesterday at the CHIN International Picnic media launch at the Liberty Grand. The annual multicultural event, slated for July 1, 3 and 4 at Exhibition Place, attracts 250,000 people annually.

Don't spend it all in one place

HST The cheque is in the mail.

Revenue Canada will mail HST rebates to 6.6 million Ontario residents this week, even though the 13 per cent sales tax doesn't take effect until July 1. The rebates — the opposition parties call them bribes — are to help families deal with the impact of the HST in its first year. About 17 per cent of consumer purchases, including gasoline and home heating fuel, will rise by eight per cent because they are currently exempt from Ontario's provincial sales tax.

"That's money that we're passing on directly to our families from the federal government to help them cope with the introduction of the HST," Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday.

British Columbia will also switch to the HST July 1, but unlike Ontario, isn't offering rebates to offset the impact of the new tax.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rebate

- Ontario couples with combined incomes of less than $160,000 will be eligible for HST rebates totalling $1,000, while singles earning less than $80,000 will qualify for $300.

Entry fee denied

Feds target crooked immigration consultants

Immigration Minister Jason Kenney has tabled new legislation meant to prevent crooked immigration consultants from cheating vulnerable newcomers of their savings or encouraging them to lie to stay in Canada.

The measures would make it a crime for unauthorized consultants to provide immigration advice for a fee. They could face up to two years in jail or a $50,000 fine for even trying to engage in immigration fraud.

Kenney is also delisting the self-regulating Canadian Society for Immigration Consultants as the body that decides who can be a legal consultant. CSIC has been criticized for charging too much for membership, lacking transparency, and turning a blind eye to unscrupulous consultants in its own ranks, he said.

Instead, the minister plans to set up a new regulatory body, accountable to the government and with the power and will to police its members.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

My Drive pg 32

A rocker's Sassy ride

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Tomorrow's Metro

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Steve Collins writes about the modern Canadian relationship in Relating.

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Anti-G20 activists accuse Canadian security officials of intimidation tactics at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs SpinDoctor on why BP's attempts at Gulf spill damage control were doomed from the start

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Scare tactics alleged

Activists say they're being harassed by officials

G20 Summit

Canadian security agents and police have been harassing and intimidating grassroots activists in an effort to stifle legitimate opposition to this month's G20 summit in downtown Toronto, community groups said yesterday.

The groups said they had tracked 28 incidents over the past three months in which security officials or police had contacted organizers at home or work, showed up at their meetings, or followed them around their neighbourhoods.

Some agents accused organizers of being "un-Canadian" or of supporting violence, the activists said, adding they would not be silenced by the tactics.

"It's a very fine line to be drawn between people who are planning violent activities and people who are planning non-violent expressions of their political views," said Kevin Tilley, of the Summit Legal Project.

"If the police contact is expanding beyond simply interfering with people who are planning violence and including people who are planning non-violent political expression, then there's a very big problem in terms of interfering with people's democratic rights to organize."

As dozens of police officers looked on, the groups made their complaints at a news conference outside the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, where the summit will be held June 26-27. In response, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service said agents are simply carrying out their mandate to assess potential threats.

"CSIS is continuously assessing the potential for violence resulting from the activities of certain groups and individuals leading up to, during and after the summit," said spokeswoman Isabelle Scott.

She noted no one is compelled to talk to a CSIS agent, and people should not read anything into a particular request for an interview. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Protesters gather outside the Metro Toronto Convention Centre yesterday to speak about the upcoming G20 summit.

Firm hired for G20 security not licensed in Ontario

SUMMIT Officials in Ontario are scrambling to get a security company hired for the G8 and G20 summits a licence to operate in the province.

The Ministry of Community Safety says Contemporary Security Canada is not licensed in Ontario, even though it was hired by the RCMP to provide about 1,100 security guards at the summits.

Spokeswoman Laura Blondeau says the ministry only learned two weeks ago that Contemporary Security Canada, which also provided security at the Vancouver Olympics, was not licensed in Ontario.

Blondeau says the company has provided the ministry with all the necessary paperwork, and officials are now doing background checks on the company and the guards it hired for the summits.

She says the province is confident the licence for Contemporary Security will be issued in time, even though the summits are just over two weeks away.

Blondeau says the Mounties have a long-standing relationship with Contemporary Security, and it's the federal government — not Ontario — that is taking the lead on security for the international summits.

"We're down to the eleventh hour, and our priority is to ensure that all policing and security ducks are in place prior to the G20," she said.

"The due diligence process is occurring right now, with the end goal — if they meet the criteria — the agency will be licensed in Ontario in time and will be able to do business in Ontario." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

SENTENCE A Toronto judge has handed out a 7½-year prison term for illegal gun possession, one of the toughest such sentences in Canada and part of a growing trend. On top of this, Ontario Superior Court Justice Frank Marrocco gave Patrick Johnson 1½ years for breaches of weapons prohibition orders — a total of nine years. Johnson, 26, was caught with a loaded semi-automatic handgun in a knapsack when police stopped a car in which he was riding in Regent Park on July 24, 2008.

JOBS With the Ontario Green Energy Act offering financial incentives for businesses to create green energy, a coalition of union, environmental and community groups says there is also an opportunity to create secure, well-paying jobs for disadvantaged groups such as youth, immigrants and people of colour. And they want Toronto Hydro to take the lead by buying and installing hundreds of solar panels on the roofs of public buildings. However, the only way Hydro could get funds for such a massive project would be through electricity rate increases. That would require provincial approval. And it might not be popular with the public, especially when rates are already on the rise. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Free skin cancer screenings offered

Volunteer dermatologists will offer free skin cancer screenings at Nathan Phillips Square on Friday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for Sun Awareness Week. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Top Ontario court hears niqab case

Ontario's highest court is considering the thorny issue of whether a sexual assault complainant should remove her niqab to face her alleged attackers in court.

The issue has drawn attention from several groups, who are not only split on whether or not she should be able to wear the veil on the witness stand, but also on the fundamental questions the issue evokes.

Lawyers for no fewer than seven parties were making submissions starting yesterday before the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

Some argue it is about Charter rights such as freedom of religion and fair trial rights, others say it is about re-victimization of alleged rape victims, and some say it is about what the niqab represents to all women.

The case began in 2007 when a woman, now 32 and identified only as N.S., told police that her cousin and uncle repeatedly sexually abused her while she was between six and 10 years old.

During the preliminary inquiry, the judge ordered N.S. to remove her veil to testify. After going through the Superior Court the case has now ended up at the Appeal Court.

Without being able to view the face of a witness, clues to her demeanor are lost and impede the defendants' ability to fully cross-examine her, Michael Dineen said.

He gave an example of a teenage witness in a recent murder trial who changed her story on the stand after a defence lawyer questioned her about smirking after giving an answer.

But since her eyes are visible, what's being lost in terms of demeanor pales in comparison to forcing N.S. to go against her religious beliefs, her lawyer argued.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Has not refused

- A lawyer for one of the defendants said N.S. has not said she refuses to testify without her face covered, just that she would feel more comfortable wearing the niqab.

LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fire inspectors examine the wreckage after a dramatic early morning fire destroyed the house on the southwest corner of Indian Road and Garden Avenue yesterday.

Explosion, fire strikes west-end homes

BLAST Residents of a west-end Toronto street were shaken from their beds after an explosion and fire in a home being renovated sent debris flying across the street.

Several homes in the Indian Road and Garden Avenue area were evacuated as firefighters battled the three-alarm blaze that started about 3 a.m.

Crews managed to get the fire under control but only the outer brick walls of the home are left standing.

The flames spread to a next door house, gutting one of the upstairs bedrooms. There were no reported injuries.

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Save your skin during Sun Awareness Week
To highlight national Sun Awareness Week, a group of volunteer Toronto dermatologists and senior residents are offering free skin cancer screenings and views of hidden sun damage at Nathan Phillips Square Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Foodies chirping over cricket-based dishes

FOOD Crickets have hopped back on the menu at Toronto's Atlantic restaurant.

Chef Nathan Isberg admits the deep-fried critters are a novelty but says "there's some people who really dig them."

Strange though it may seem, there are many people who delight in platters of ants, scorpions, worms and even bullfrogs — if they are cooked just right.

Isberg said some diners may be turned off by the squishy or crunchy delicacies.

But for more adventurous types, he's happy to whip up dishes like chili-fried crickets with greens, cricket-fried rice or grilled crickets and jellyfish on a skewer.

The insects were briefly swatted off the menu until an insurer recently gave the OK for their return. Isberg uses rosemary or oregano to spice them up but admits he doesn't cook them every night since it takes a while to raise them to the right size.

"If people are particularly interested in it then I have them available, but they are pretty labour-intensive."

The manager of Toronto's public health food safety program says he has seen crickets, mealworms and other unusual delicacies during his 32 years of inspections.

Pests usually come to mind when people think of insects at restaurants but Jim Chan says most bugs are edible if cooked and handled properly.

He's seen frozen turtles in a supermarket freezer, dried snakes at grocery stores and dried sea horses in herbal stores.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mayoral candidate Georgio Mammoliti unveils his plan yesterday for Toronto's waterfront. It includes taking all cars off the Gardiner in favour of rapid transit and a series of 18 sky parks along the way.

A Gardiner without cars?

Mammoliti unveils waterfront plan

A $1.3-billion plan to ban cars from the Gardiner and confine motorists to a wider, eight-lane Lake Shore Boulevard could be paid off in four years with revenue from road tolls, parking and a floating casino near Ontario Place, says mayoral candidate Giorgio Mammoliti.

His waterfront vision — based on the work of University of Toronto architecture professors Ivan Saleff and Robert Wright — reimagines the Gardiner as a Skyway, open down the middle to act as a six-kilometre skylight over Lake Shore.

"The Gardiner would open just like Moses opened up the sea," said Mammoliti.

Inspired in part by New York's High Line elevated park, it would have trains down one side, with lanes for cyclists, pedestrians and skaters on the other, running through a series of 12 sky parks — green spaces equivalent in acreage to 15 Yonge-Dundas Squares — at a cost of $84 million, including street connections.

He is proposing to raise between $200 million and $500 million annually from a casino, $100 million from parking and $75 million from road tolls.

"We've got to stop with asking people to cover the woes and the costs of Toronto with property taxes," said Mammoliti, who drew only three per cent of support in an April poll by the Toronto Star.

Mammoliti said he would negotiate a casino deal with the province even though Queen's Park put a moratorium on new commercial and charity casinos in 2005.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

SEX ASSAULT Police are hoping security footage will lead them to two men wanted in a sexual assault case. The victim, 19, said she went downtown with friends around 11 p.m. May 22 and visited two bars. She woke up 12 hours later in a laneway in the Yonge Street and Major MacKenzie Drive area in Richmond Hill. The woman told police she believes she was sexually assaulted sometime in between. Police said it was unclear if she was drugged. The first suspect is white, between 29 and 31 years old, with muscular arms and light brown hair. He was last seen wearing a black shirt and pants, a ring on his left pinky finger, a watch on his left arm and a gold chain around his neck. The second suspect is white, between 29 and 31 years old, with dark brown hair. He was last seen wearing a black shirt and pants.

CANCER Don your mask and cape and get ready to party like a superhero in support of Rethink Breast Cancer. This year's Rethink Romp is superhero-themed. Partygoers will unite against breast cancer at Steamwhistle Brewing at 255 Bremner Blvd. for the annual event tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.rethinkromp.com.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Vale workers report 'some progress' in talks

Striking Vale workers in Sudbury, Ont., say they have made "some progress" in negotiations with the nickel mining giant. The two sides met over the weekend and talks were adjourned yesterday until June 19. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Most navy choppers due in 2012

Two-thirds of Canada's new fleet of 28 navy helicopters won't begin delivery until June 2012, almost 3½ years behind the original schedule, the Defence Department has confirmed. The delivery date in the $5-billion contract with Sikorsky to replace the aging Sea King fleet was November 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Speaking Harper's language

Tories keep diplomats under strict controls, probe finds

The long arm of Tory message control has reached around the world in an attempt to orchestrate virtually every public utterance by seasoned diplomats, from Britain to Bangladesh, an investigation by The Canadian Press concludes.

The secret to this unprecedented attempt to stage-manage Canada's most experienced high commissioners, ambassadors and diplomats is the Message Event Proposal — a finely developed information tool aimed at giving the Prime Minister's Office total control over communication.

MEPs obtained under the Access to Information Act reveal how Stephen Harper's office has employed the device to micromanage Canadian diplomacy in the United States, the United Kingdom, continental Europe, Asia and Africa.

Even the most able and trusted of Canada's foreign service officers have been subjected to strict controls — not by their bosses at the Foreign Affairs Department — but by the PMO through its public service arm, the Privy Council Office.

"There's no question it has a bit of a chilling effect on people, because they know that they have to avoid being off-message at all — and that's what the government wants," said one currently serving diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity because of fears of career reprisals.

The central direction of foreign service officers is unparalleled, says retired diplomat Gordon Smith, who served Conservative and Liberal prime ministers as Canada's ambassador to NATO and the European Union, was a former deputy minister of Foreign Affairs and a senior official at PCO.

"I cannot recall one occasion, when I was in those posts, I ever cleared a speech back through Ottawa," Smith said.

Smith said today's diplomats have developed "coping mechanisms" for dealing with Ottawa.

"Quite apart from anything else, it becomes a tremendous burden to get everything cleared," said Smith. "I think what people are trying to do is develop generic speeches and get those cleared so they don't have to be done on a regular basis."

A PCO spokeswoman has defended the use of MEPs as a legitimate communication tool. The Prime Minister's Office has declined comment. THE CANADIAN PRESS

VIRGINIA MAYO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Canadian Press investigation has concluded Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservatives are attempting to stage-manage the country's foreign service workers abroad.

"It has a bit of a chilling effect on people, because they know that they have to avoid being off-message at all."
Canadian diplomat

Manslaughter charge for mom of baby killed by dog

QUEBEC A stunned teenage mother was charged with manslaughter yesterday, one day after her three-week-old daughter was mauled to death by a dog.

On her way out of the Quebec courtroom, the distraught 17-year-old locked eyes with her boyfriend, the newborn baby's father, who was still in disbelief himself.

"I know that it's not really her fault," the 19-year-old man told reporters before the young woman's youth court appearance.

"She's an excellent mother."

Police say a dog turned on the newborn after she had been left unattended with two huskies at the couple's home in the village of St-Barnabe-Sud, about 65 kilometres northeast of Montreal.

The baby's father says the mother told him that everything happened quickly at the residence they share with another couple.

He says she went outside to join her mother — the baby's grandmother — for a smoke and she wasn't even a few metres from the girl. Within a matter of seconds, she heard the attack inside the house.

The huskies, a male and a female, belong to the couple's housemates, the newborn's father said. He described them as "super-affectionate," obedient pets.

"We never thought this could happen," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mortgage brokers fall short in guarding info, watchdog says

PRIVACY Mortgage brokers still have a ways to go in protecting the personal information of their customers, the privacy commissioner said yesterday.

Jennifer Stoddart said an investigation by her office into the loss of hundreds of credit reports in Ontario two years ago found brokers have tightened their security.

But she says the controls should be tougher, especially since brokers play a major role in home-buying. Brokers handle a quarter of all mortgages and almost half of all first-time mortgages.

The audit was started after the brokerages reported 14 data breaches in the space of a few months in mid-2008.

Someone impersonating an experienced agent downloaded credit reports for people who hadn't even applied for a mortgage and compromised the personal information of thousands of people.

Jennifer Stoddart

The report said brokers now are more careful in allowing access to personal data, but don't always have the alarm systems, secure walls and other physical safeguards to protect the files.

They also don't have computer systems to restrict access to credit reports and aren't always careful in disposing of their files.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

JAFFER After his disastrous first appearance at a Commons committee in April, former Tory MP Rahim Jaffer is asking for a time-out so he can prepare for his next stint in the hot seat. Jaffer was scheduled to appear today at the government operations committee, which has been studying allegations that he illegally lobbied his former colleagues. His wife, former junior cabinet minister Helena Guergis, was also slated to appear but bowed out earlier this week citing a health issue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former Afghan cabinet minister warns Taliban peace talks will shatter progress of women's rights

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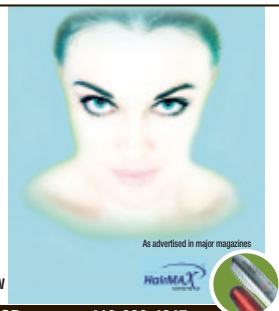

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Most support Liberal/NDP co-operation: Poll

A new poll suggests more than half of Canadians favour some sort of co-operation between the federal Liberals and New Democrats. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Will the premier help out in Leamington?

The mayor of Leamington says he has spoken to Premier Dalton McGuinty about possible aid in the wake of the tornado that hit the southwestern Ontario community.

John Adams says he talked to McGuinty on the phone Monday afternoon, particularly about getting aid quickly for people whose homes were damaged by Sunday's storm.

"What I asked him was if there was any assistance we could get immediately, within the next couple of days," Adams said.

"That's for people whose homes were totally demolished and their insurance won't cover it right away. So we're trying to speed things up as fast as we can."

Dalton McGuinty

The mayor said the municipality will be able to tap into the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program.

Municipal officials said a state of emergency would stay in place last night, and possibly into this morning, while power was being restored.

A cleanup continues following the storm that uprooted trees and tore roofs off houses.

Environment Canada said Leamington was hit by an F1 tornado, which is at the lower end of the scale, and a wind downburst.

Adams said it's hard to believe no one was hurt in the storm.

"If there's any good thing to say about a bad situation, it's good that it happened in the evening and we had no injuries — which is unbelievable," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

MATERNAL HEALTH A major anti-poverty coalition says Canada is shortchanging its signature G8 maternal health initiative by hundreds of million of dollars. Make Poverty History says the Conservative government's plan to freeze foreign aid spending next year will only make matters worse. It is calling on Canada to contribute $1.4 billion over five years towards poor kids and moms when it hosts the G8 later this month in Huntsville. Previous reports said Canada is considering a $1-billion contribution. The coalition praised Canada for its contributions to food aid, gender equality and the fight against diseases such as malaria, TB and AIDS. But the group said Canada falls short on child and maternal health protection. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Vote sought on Iran sanctions

The United States and its allies have called for a vote today on a resolution that would impose new UN sanctions on Iran and its powerful Revolutionary Guard over its suspect nuclear program. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

New Japanese PM names cabinet

Japan's new prime minister named his cabinet and vowed to tackle the country's burgeoning debt yesterday, but analysts said with elections looming he will be hard-pressed to hold his ground let alone carry out sweeping reforms. Naoto Kan, left, and the Democratic Party of Japan he now heads hope his image as a grassroots reformer will restore public trust ahead of next month's elections. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crude directions

Oil pattern unpredictable in Gulf, underwater plumes confirmed

The oil spill plaguing the Gulf of Mexico is washing ashore with little pattern, slathering some areas in a tarry mess while leaving others unscathed. Officials also confirmed yesterday that plumes of oil are also lurking in the deep.

Tests have confirmed underwater plumes dozens of miles from the broken wellhead off Louisiana that's been gushing oil since late April, the U.S. government's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration chief Jane Lubchenco said in Washington.

A University of South Florida research vessel confirmed oil as far as 1,000 metres below the surface 68 kilometres northeast of the site and 229 kilometres southeast, Lubchenco said at a briefing, joined by U.S. Coast Guard Admiral Thad Allen, who is monitoring the spill response for the government.

The containment cap on the stricken BP wellhead is helping to limit the leak, collecting more than 2.3 million litres of oil yesterday, Allen said.

Authorities had reported that around 1.7 million litres were collected Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the hill

- Tony Hayward, the embattled chief executive of BP, will make his first appearance on Capitol Hill since the catastrophic Gulf oil spill when he testifies before a congressional committee next week.

Scan this code or visit metronews.ca/world for an exclusive photo gallery from the Gulf Coast oil disaster.
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U.S. Ironwoman of education

MEGAN M. REID/KITSAP SUN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Danique Gigger holds her perfect attendance awards outside of South Kitsap High School earlier this week in Port Orchard, Wash. Gigger, the valedictorian for the SKHS Class of 2010, has never missed a day of school. That's 180 days a year for 13 years, or 2,340 days.

WHO boss rejects conflict of interest

H1N1 The head of the World Health Organization said yesterday that her decisions about the H1N1 virus, also known as swine flu, were not influenced by links to pharmaceutical companies, which were pointed out in a critical article this month. The article last week in the BMJ, formerly known as the British Medical Journal, pointed out that WHO did not disclose potential conflicts of interest among some of the experts involved in writing guidelines for pandemic preparations. Three scientists out of 22 who worked on the guidelines were named as having received money from pharmaceuticals. "At no time ... did commercial interests enter my decision-making," WHO director general Margaret Chan said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Thai protest leader granted bail
A key anti-government protest leader was granted bail yesterday, while Thailand extended a state of emergency for another month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UN chief pushes Israel on raid investigation

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged Israel yesterday to agree to international participation in an investigation into its deadly raid on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla.

UN associate spokesman Farhan Haq said Ban wants to underscore that "credible international involvement is crucial to a prompt, credible, impartial and transparent investigation" which the Security Council called for after Israel's May 31 raid that killed nine people.

Israel's Vice Prime Minister Silvan Shalom said Monday the government is considering the options for an investigation and is dealing with the United States and the United Nations. He told The Associated Press that "a decision will be published in a short time."

The Palestinians and Arabs are insisting that the investigation be "independent." But Israel's U.S. ambassador objected to such an inquiry, believing the international community is biased and that it is capable of investigating the incident itself.

An Israeli Foreign Ministry official said Sunday that Ban was moving ahead with plans for an international commission that would include Israeli, Turkish and U.S. representatives. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former New Zealand PM to head?

- The UN chief wants former New Zealand prime minister Geoffrey Palmer, a maritime law expert, to head the panel, an Israeli official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Police say van der Sloot confessed to murder

PERU Police plan to take Joran van der Sloot, who they say has confessed to last week's killing of a 21-year-old woman in his Lima hotel room, to visit the crime scene, officials said yesterday.

They also said police have until the weekend to file criminal charges against the Dutchman in the May 30 killing of Stephany Flores.

The beating death occurred exactly five years after U.S. teenager Natalee Holloway disappeared in Aruba — an assumed death in which Van der Sloot has long been considered the prime suspect by authorities on the Dutch Caribbean island. A police spokesman said late Monday that Van der Sloot confessed.

Several Peruvian media outlets reported, without identifying their sources, that he admitted to killing Flores in a rage after learning she looked up information about his past on his laptop without permission. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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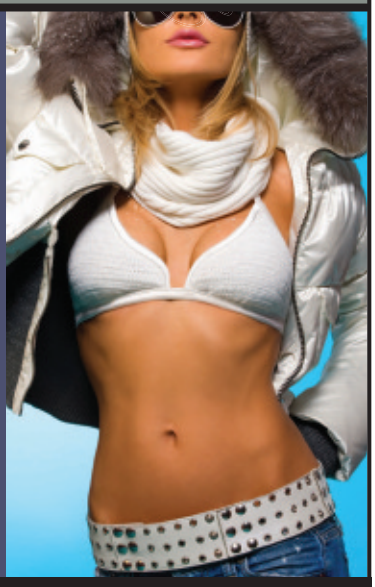

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Thirteen arrested in Mexico City for theft from pipelines
Police have arrested 13 people they say excavated a 150-metre tunnel under a busy neighbourhood in Mexico's capital to steal fuel from oil company pipelines, officials said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anti-rape condom at World Cup

Doctor develops device with tiny hooks that attach to attacker

JOSEFINA SOLOMON
Metro World News

A South African doctor has launched a new female condom aimed at preventing rapes — and she plans to give away 30,000 for free before the start of the World Cup.

The female condom, Rape-aXe, is covered by tiny hooks which, in case of rape, attach themselves to the attacker's penis. According to its creator the only way to remove the condom is in hospital where the man would be identified as a criminal.

Its inventor Dr. Sonnet Ehlers said she was inspired by a rape victim who told her "If only I had teeth down there."

"If only I had teeth down there."
Rape victim

She explained the system would cause great pain to the attacker, leaving time for the victim to escape.

Dr Ehlers says the device is vital to help women in a country with one of the highest rates of rape in the world.

But the Rape-aXe has also received fierce criticism.

Women rights' activists said the device doesn't actually prevent an attack from taking place and warned it can even provoke a more violent reaction from the attacker. Others warned that some women might use it against innocent men.

Vatican **Voices for change**

PIER PAOLO CITO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Representatives of the U.S.-based Women's Ordination Conference stage a protest in front of St.Peter's Basilica in Rome yesterday. Groups that have long demanded that women be ordained Roman Catholic priests took advantage of the Vatican's crisis over clerical sex abuse to press their cause.

U.K. reaffirms its role in Afghanistan

WAR Britain's new government publicly assured the United States yesterday that it remains committed to its central role in the war in Afghanistan, despite heavy losses in what U.S. defence chief Robert Gates called the "absolute middle of the thick of the fight."

Britain's new coalition government is considered less invested in the eight-year Afghan war than its Labour predecessor, and eager to offer an exit plan to a public increasingly impatient with the stalemate.

British Defence Minister Liam Fox said that upon taking the job last month, "the first question I asked myself was, 'Should we be in Afghanistan?' "

"The answer had to be, of course, yes. We still have a national security imperative," Fox said.

The Obama administration needs Britain most among its allies in Afghanistan as it expands the war this year and then looks for ways to shrink it in 2011. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. ally

- With 9,500 forces in Afghanistan, Britain has the second-largest number of forces in the war after the United States.

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Comment

Barely treading water in lake of debt

TheWestView

This is the first time I've ever agreed with Chief Bloc Head Gilles Duceppe.

The indoor fake lake planned for the G8 summit in a Toronto media centre — right next to Lake Ontario — is indeed "one of the funniest things I've ever heard."

The only thing funnier was that photograph of Canada's national separatist wearing a shower cap at a cheese factory during the 1997 federal election. But I digress.

The fact that you and I are paying $2 million for the lake by the lake (complete with Muskoka chairs) as an amenity for international journalists who may be intimidated by a real lake and need to stay indoors is not so funny.

Nor is the estimated $2-billion price tag for both the G20 in Toronto and the G8 in the real Muskoka. That's a lot of money for a meeting (well, two meetings). Haven't these world leaders ever heard of Skype?

Especially when the meeting is about how to get out of the global financial glue. They should all be eating cheese sandwiches on park benches in Allan Gardens. The simple truth is they can't afford any more. The U.S. national debt alone is north of $13 trillion, which is 90 per cent of its GDP. Do you have any idea how much a trillion dollars is? Neither do I, but to go through it we'd have to spend $1 every second for the next 31,000 years.

Or we could just get the U.S. government to do it for us: Washington will spend $1.6 trillion more than it makes in just one year.

Canada's national debt is more modest — a mere $527.5 billion (and counting) but isn't it bad form for a bunch of bankrupt oligarchs to be throwing around the peasants' money on fake lakes when they should all be sent to bed without their suppers and no allowance for an entire month?

I realize the lion's share of the cost for the G8/G20 blowout is for security. Someone could fall into the fake lake, never mind the real one right next to it. But the Harper administration is sparing no expense to talk about the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression.

Maybe the fake lake is an appropriate symbol after all. We're all under water. And we have no idea how to get our heads back above the water line. Washington, for example, has started taking online donations. I kid you not: Check this out: www.pay.gov/paygov/forms/formInstance.html?agencyFormId=23779454.

Here in Canada, the Harper government doesn't bother to ask. It's enough to make a separatist smile.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Will you be cheering for anyone at the start of the World Cup?

Mark Brown
Toronto

A: It's actually my first time following it this year. I'm cheering for Brazil. They're the best in the world.

Sara Bellaire
Toronto

A:No, not anyone in particular. I try to spend my free time outside in the spring instead of in front of the TV.

Harrison Fine
Toronto

A: I don't really follow it that closely but I do know that Brazil usually wins. Since it's in South Africa and I like going for the underdogs, I'll say I'm cheering for them.

Nicole Pontes
Ottawa

A: Portugal, because of my nationality. And Cristiano Ronaldo is pretty sexy.

Zokpah Dahn
Halifax

A: I'd say Spain or Brazil. Spain has so many good players and one of the stronger leagues right now in Europe. I'm (also hoping) for a team from Africa to win. It's the first time for the World Cup in Africa.

Aisha Brown
Edmonton

A: I'll be cheering for France this year, because they are the best team ever. I like their strategies, the way they play and their good sportsmanship. They're just a good team altogether.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Tell us your views by email to torontoletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrotoronto

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Transcontinental shares surge after it reverses loss

Montreal-based Transcontinental saw its shares surge more than eight per cent to $13.27 yesterday after the printing and publishing company reversed last year's loss to earn $68.7 million in its second quarter, about half of it coming from discontinued operations that were sold April 1. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
US 95.37¢	US $4.816	US $71.99	11,517.18
US 1.05¢	US 10¢	US 55¢	12.44

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Imperial Oil CEO Bruce March discusses responsible development of the oilsands yesterday at the Economic Club of Canada.

Imperial Oil chief polishes oil industry's tarred image

OIL The head of one of Canada's largest oilsands producers says new technology has softened the impact his industry is having on the environment.

Imperial Oil chief executive Bruce March said oilsands producers have cut the carbon dioxide per barrel they produce by 39 per cent since 1990.

He said Imperial Oil's new Kearl project being built in Alberta will have the same greenhouse gas emissions over the life of the operation as the average conventional crude project in North America.

March made his remarks in a speech to the Economic Club in Ottawa as part of the industry's recent push to polish its tarred image.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chinese factories reap the rewards of treating employees like potential customers.
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GM recalls vehicles over fire concerns

General Motors Co. said yesterday it was recalling about 1.5 million vehicles worldwide to address a problem with a heated windshield wiper fluid system that could lead to a fire, its second recall over the issue in two years.

The recall affects 2006 to 2009 model years pickup trucks, sport utility vehicles, crossovers and passenger car models.

In August 2008, GM recalled 900,000 vehicles because a short circuit on the circuit board of the heated washer fluid system could overheat the ground wire. GM later came across fires in vehicles that had been fixed under the previous recall, prompting the latest safety action.

GM said it would disable the heated washer fluid system module and will pay owners and those leasing vehicles $100 each since the feature is being disabled.

GM said it was aware of five fires, but there had been no injuries or crashes reported. Nearly 1.4 million vehicles are in the U.S. and more than 100,000 vehicles are in Canada, Mexico and other markets.

The auto company said customers will begin to receive recall letters later this month. Dealers will remove the heated washer fluid module and reroute washer fluid hoses.

GM said the technology was available from only one supplier, Microheat Inc. of Michigan, which went out of business, preventing GM from working on an improved design.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Models recalled

- **2006-2009** Buick Lucerne, Cadillac DTS, and Hummer H2;
- **2008-2009** Buick Enclave and Cadillac CTS;
- **2007-2009** Cadillac Escalade, Escalade ESV and Escalade EXT;
- **2007-2009** Chevrolet Avalanche, Silverado, Suburban and Tahoe;
- **2007-2009** GMC Acadia, Sierra, Yukon and Yukon XL;
- **2007-2009** Saturn Outlook;
- **2009** Chevrolet Traverse.

Fewer new homes point to cooling market

HOUSING New home construction slowed in May as the number of startups last month fell below economists' expectations — the latest indicator that Canada's once white-hot housing market is cooling off.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp reported yesterday that the annual rate of housing starts dropped last month, pegging the rate at 189,100 units in May, down from a revised 201,800 in April.

"Today's data suggest that the rebound in homebuilding activity from last year's recession is quickly running out of steam," Derek Burleton, deputy chief economist at TD Bank Financial Group, wrote in a note yesterday.

He added that TD Economics anticipates average resale home prices to decline by six to seven per cent over the next four or five quarters.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. retailer fights hostile takeover

STORES Quebec-based Alimentation Couche-Tard's $1.9-billion US hostile takeover offer for Casey's General Stores is too low, highly conditional and based on uncertain financing, the U.S. convenience store operator told its shareholders yesterday.

In Canada, Couche-Tard — North America's second-largest convenience store operator with 5,880 locations — operates the Beckers, Mac's and Couche-Tard chains. Casey's has about 1,500 stores mostly in the U.S. Midwest. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business in brief

NEW NAME Telus is rebranding its TV and high-speed Internet services and calling it Optik, the telecommunications company said yesterday. The Vancouver-based company said it is investing $1.7 billion this year to expand its network and Telus also said it will introduce remote recording, the ability to program its TV personal video recorders from smartphones or web-enabled computers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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416-872-1111 (Tickets) www.luminato.com

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416-234-WOOF (9663) www.woofstock.ca

Taste of Little Italy
June 18 - 20 College Street (between Bathurst and Shaw streets)
Take the 506 Carlton streetcar westbound from College or Queen's Park subway station to festival site.
416-531-0848 www.tasteoflittleitaly.ca

TD Toronto Jazz Festival
June 25 - July 4 Nathan Phillips Square plus venues across Toronto
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416 870-8000 (Tickets) www.torontojazz.com

*TTC Day Pass - Some conditions apply. Call 416-393-INFO (4636) or visit www.ttc.ca for details.

Mega Brands to make Dinosaur Train toys
The Jim Henson Co. has licensed Mega Brands to develop construction toys based on the children's series Dinosaur Train. THE CANADIAN PRESS

India 20M new cellphone users a month

MAHESH KUMAR A./THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People charge their mobile phones yesterday at a temporary plug point in Hyderabad, India. India's mobile market is far from mature, adding 20 million users a month, and is expected to hit 1 billion by 2014, roughly twice what it is now.

Thai rice output hit

Drought expected to drastically reduce crop

Thailand, the world's largest rice exporter, is facing major losses to its next crop of rice and a worsening water crisis because of the worst drought in nearly two decades.

Chanchai Rakthananon, president of the Thai Rice Mills Association, said yesterday that rice output for the next crop cycle, ending in August, could fall to as little as two million tons from a previously forecast five million tons.

The government keeps a rice reserve of about 10 per cent of output, mostly as a way of stabilizing prices, so the drought won't cause food shortages.

However, Thailand will face a water crisis if reserves are not refilled and demand for water continues to soar, said Chalit Damroengsak of the Royal Irrigation Department, who explained that the agricultural sector consumes 70 per cent of the nation's water supply, while human consumption accounts for only four per cent.

Water levels in reservoirs nationwide are at 15 per cent of total capacity. In some regions, local officials have asked farmers to postpone rice planting by one month for fear of depleting the reserves.

The Meteorological Department predicts heavy rain for the next three months, but that poses more of a problem because flash floods can wipe out planted seedlings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Production

- Thailand produces about 20 million tons of rice annually in two to four crop cycles, exporting about nine million metric tons and consuming the same amount.

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Wozniak advances at Aegon Classic

Canadian Aleksandra Wozniak advanced to the second round of the Aegon Classic yesterday. Wozniak, the ninth-seeded player from Blainville, Que., did well to quell the serve-and-volley threat from Australia's Alicia Molik, winning 7-5, 6-1. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Messi not in Real Madrid's sights

Real Madrid president Florentino Perez says the club will buy two or three new players this summer, but definitely not Barcelona's Lionel Messi, left. Perez told Antena 3 TV that "Messi is the second-best player in the world after Cristiano Ronaldo. It wouldn't be a good thing if they were on the same team, that way there's better competition." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

NBA Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert refused to comment yesterday on reports he has offered a job to Michigan State's Tom Izzo and said superstar free agent LeBron James will not be consulted during the team's search for a new coach. Speaking at a news conference, Gilbert strongly refuted theories that James has had input on previous hires, the firing of coach Mike Brown and general manager Danny Ferry's recent departure.

NHL Scott Arniel is the new head coach of the Columbus Blue Jackets. The 47-year-old was the head coach of the Manitoba Moose of the American Hockey League for the past four seasons.

CFL Tickets for the 98th Grey Cup game in Edmonton this fall have sold out just one week after they went on sale. The CFL championship is being played Nov. 28 at Commonwealth Stadium, which seats more than 60,000. It's believed to be the fastest and earliest sellout of Grey Cup tickets on record.

HOCKEY Bodychecking more than triples the risk of injury and concussion in peewee hockey, according to a study conducted by the University of Calgary. Researchers compared rates of injury between peewee teams in Alberta and Quebec. Bodychecking is allowed at the peewee level in Alberta, but not in Quebec.

TENNIS Andy Roddick began the chase for his fifth title at Queen's Club with a clinical 6-2, 6-1 defeat of Russian Igor Kunitsyn yesterday, joining defending champion Andy Murray in the third round. The fourth-seeded American fired 12 aces, faced just one break point and tied up victory in only 50 minutes.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Flyers know what's at stake: Pronger

Veteran says he's focused on Game 6, not the past

Chris Pronger wore his usual relaxed manner and impish grin when he faced the media yesterday, as though the ugly numbers he put up in Game 5 of the Stanley Cup final never happened.

The Flyers defenceman was probably right to insist he didn't play that badly, despite going minus-5 and being on the ice for six of the Chicago Blackhawks' seven goals in a 7-4 victory that put the Flyers on the brink of elimination. On the other goal, he was in the penalty box.

One went in off his leg, another was blocked by his leg but went right to an opponent for a pass and a goal, another saw goalie Michael Leighton beat on a long shot that no defenceman could prevent.

So instead of dwelling on it, he's looking for the entire Philadelphia team to bounce back with a strong effort at home in Game 6 tonight (CBC, 8 p.m. ET) to try to force a decisive seventh game in Chicago two nights later. The Blackhawks lead the best-of-seven series 3-2.

"I've already started to focus on Game 6 and I'm not really worried about it," Pronger said of the Game 5 debacle, in which the speedy Blackhawks skated rings around the Flyers through the first period, then got timely goals as Philadelphia battled back.

"I don't know if you've watched much of the video but I have. There's not a whole lot you can do when a puck bounces off your shin pad and goes in the net — a couple of times. So I'm not worried. It could easily have gone the other way."

ANDRE RINGUETTE/GETTY IMAGES

Philadelphia Flyers goalie Michael Leighton pauses for a drink during practice yesterday in Philadelphia.

Leighton gets the nod

• Flyers coach Peter Laviolette ended any debate over who will start in goal in Game 6 by giving a public nod to Michael Leighton yesterday. Leighton was pulled from Game 5 after allowing three first-period goals. He was also pulled in Game 1 in Chicago in favour of Brian Boucher. "Our goaltender has the best numbers in the playoffs, I didn't think I'd have to announce it," said Laviolette. "I'm very confident in Michael. He's played excellent in the playoffs, especially at home. His numbers are terrific." At home, Leighton is 6-0 and has allowed only nine goals.

It usually does in Philadelphia, where the Flyers are 9-1 in the postseason.

White-gloved NHL officials will have the Cup in the Wachovia Centre ready to be presented to the Blackhawks if they win. That's motivation enough for the 35-year-old Pronger.

"I think we know what we're up against," he said. "They're trying to close us out and we're trying to get to a Game 7.

"Everyone in the locker-room understands what's at stake and what we need to do."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brees, Saints give Gulf community reason to smile again

OIL SPILL A Who Dat Nation weary from the worst-ever U.S. oil spill set aside its misery for a few hours yesterday to schmooze with the Super Bowl-champion New Orleans Saints.

Along the main highway to Fort Jackson in Plaquemines Parish, coach Sean Payton, team owner Tom Benson and some players passed "Who Dat?" banners that sprouted where anti-BP signs had stood.

Drew Brees

A crowd packed the fort, which has been a staging area for cleaning birds rescued from the oil flowing from BP's well in the Gulf of Mexico.

In oppressive heat, a jazz band played, and Payton and star quarterback Drew Brees signed autographs. The distraction for the community since oil began washing up in April was evident and appreciated.

"We haven't had anything to smile about in a while. Today at least people are getting the chance," said Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser.

Brees also announced a chance for a lucky fan to get a Super Bowl ring like those that will soon be worn by the team. The Saints plan to raffle a ring, with all funds going to aid victims of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

The winner will be announced before the Sept. 9 regular-season game against Minnesota. The Saints hope to raise $1 million through the effort.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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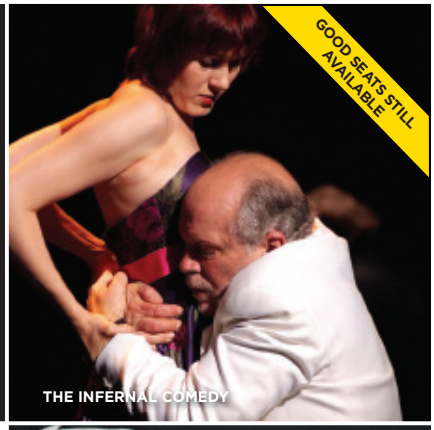

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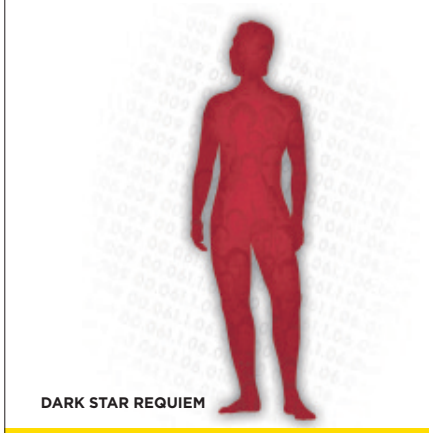

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Girl has surgery after being hit by ball

A three-year-old girl whose skull was fractured by a line drive hit by Canadian catcher Russell Martin during batting practice at Dodger Stadium underwent surgery yesterday. In a statement, officials from Children's Hospital Los Angeles said they expect the girl will be well enough for release by the end of the week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Strasburg arrives in style

Overhyped? Are you kidding? Stephen Strasburg went beyond the hype — and anyone's reasonable expectations — by striking out 14 batters in his electric major league debut.

With a standing-room-only crowd cheering at every chance, the Washington Nationals phenom put on a dazzling display of power pitching last night in a 5-2 win over the Pittsburgh Pirates. His fastballs reached 100 miles per hour, and batters found his nasty curves nearly impossible to hit.

"I just wanted to go out and soak up everything. It only happens once and I've been waiting for this my whole life," Strasburg said.

Last year's No. 1 overall draft pick — the one with the record $15.1-million US contract — threw his first pitch 97 m.p.h. and got stronger as the game progressed. He struck out the last seven batters he faced, and all nine Pirates in the starting lineup fanned at least once.

The 21-year-old right-hander was pulled after seven innings and took a curtain call. He allowed four hits, two earned runs and didn't walk a batter, piling up the most strikeouts in a big league debut since J.R. Richard fanned 15 for Houston in 1971.

Karl Spooner also struck out 15 in his debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1954. He and Richard are the only pitchers with more strikeouts than Strasburg in a major league debut since 1920 — and Spooner and Richard both had three walks.

Strasburg also tied Max Scherzer of the Detroit Tigers for most strikeouts in a game in the majors this season. Scherzer had 14 May 30 against Oakland.

Strasburg was removed for a pinch hitter in the bottom of the seventh with a 4-2 lead. When it was announced that he had set a team record for strikeouts since the franchise's move to Washington in 2005, the crowd roared again — and Strasburg emerged to the top step of the dugout and tipped his cap.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREG FIUME/GETTY IMAGES

Washington Nationals Stephen Strasburg throws a pitch last night against the Pittsburgh Pirates at Nationals Park in Washington. Strasburg struck out 14 in his major league debut.

Pena comes alive as Rays thump Jays

MLB RESULTS

Blue Jays 0 Rays 9

Struggling slugger Carlos Pena homered twice and drove in five runs to back unbeaten Jeff Niemann's two-hit pitching and help the Tampa Bay Rays beat the Toronto Blue Jays 9-0 last night.

Pena hit a solo shot and a grand slam, giving him three homers in his last two games as he tries to hit his way out of a season-long slump.

Niemann (6-0) didn't allow a runner past first base, limiting the Blue Jays to singles by Mike McCoy and Adam Lind en route to his third career shutout.

Toronto was hitless until McCoy's sharp grounder eluded third baseman Evan Longoria and shortstop Reid Brignac, who both dove but were unable to keep the ball from reaching the outfield with one out in the sixth.

Lind led off the seventh with his hit that fell in front of left-fielder Gabe Kapler. Niemann, who walked one and struck out six, retired the next nine batters to end the game.

Pena entered hitting just .175, lowest in the majors among players with a qualifying number of at-bats. His solo homer off Brian Tallet (1-2) gave Tampa Bay a 1-0 lead in the fourth, and his seventh career grand slam — off another left-hander, Rommie Lewis — finished a seven-run fifth that made it 8-0.

Longoria and Willy Aybar drove in two runs apiece for the Rays, who have won 11 of 13 against the Blue Jays at Tropicana Field over the past two seasons.

The Blue Jays only managed to get two balls out of the infield against Niemann through five innings. Vernon Wells lined to Kapler to end the first, and Jose Bautista hit a routine fly to right-fielder Ben Zobrist to begin the fifth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toronto talent

- The Toronto Blue Jays selected some homegrown talent on Day 2 of the Major League Baseball draft. The Jays took outfielder Marcus Knecht with the No. 113 overall pick yesterday. The Toronto native, who will turn 20 this month, has played college ball at Oklahoma State and Connors State.
- The Jays went with a southpaw with their opening pick of the day, taking Griffin Murphy at No. 61. Toronto made more than 20 picks in all, including left-hander Justin Nicolino at No. 80 and shortstop Christopher Hawkins at No. 93.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Tampa Bay 9 TORONTO 0
Boston 3 Cleveland 2
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore
Seattle at Texas
Detroit at Chicago White Sox
Kansas City at Minnesota
L.A. Angels at Oakland

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

N.Y. Mets 2 San Diego 1 (11 ings)
San Francisco 3 Cincinnati 0
Washington 5 Pittsburgh 2
Florida at Philadelphia
Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee
Houston at Colorado
Atlanta at Arizona
St. Louis at L.A. Dodgers

NHL PLAYOFFS

TODAY'S GAME

Chicago at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

NBA PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

L.A. Lakers at Boston

For more results visit metronews.ca/sports

Portugal's Nani to miss World Cup
Portugal winger Nani was ruled out of the World Cup yesterday because of a bruised left collarbone. Nani, 23, will be replaced by uncapped Benfica winger Ruben Amorim if the Portuguese federation's request to FIFA is successful. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MICHAEL REGAN/GETTY IMAGES

Wayne Rooney warms up with Michael Carrick yesterday during the England training session at the Royal Bafokeng Sports Campus in Rustenburg, South Africa.

Containing Rooney key for U.S. squad

To beat England, the United States has to stop a player who in real life had the kind of season usually seen only in video games.

Wayne Rooney scored five goals this season against Jozy Altidore's Hull, and three against Jonathan Spector's West Ham. He had two against Clint Dempsey's Fulham, and one each against Marcus Hahnemann's Wolverhampton and Brad Guzan's Aston Villa.

"To be honest, we're under no illusions. We're going to have to be at our best to beat a player like him, or to even match a player like him," American defender Jay DeMerit said yesterday, four days before the big game.

Rooney, the 24-year-old star of Manchester United and England's national team, was a whirlwind this season. His 26 Premier League goals were second behind Didier Drogba's 29. He had five more in the European Champions League and two in the League Cup.

On Jan. 23 alone, he had four goals against Hull. He has long been a star, but never before had he put together a season like this.

"He's revered. People think of him as a sporting god, and they should," U.S. goalkeeper Tim Howard said. "He's amazing, quite simply, and he does all the things that a striker needs to do, and he does them great. And that's why he's considered the best one or two players in the world." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **"People think of him as a sporting god, and they should."**
> Tim Howard, U.S. goalkeeper

CBC allowing viewers to 'consume' World Cup

TELEVISION Fans will get a chance to see the beautiful game in a different way when CBC begins its marathon coverage of the World Cup of soccer Friday from South Africa.

The network plans more than 1,000 combined hours of coverage in both English and French of the world's largest sport's tournament. Live streaming of matches on CBCSports.ca will allow devotees to watch individual players and even see the game from an end zone camera.

"This will allow viewers to consume the World Cup in a way they have never been able to see it before," said Trevor Pilling, CBC's executive producer of World Cup coverage.

For the first time, the final match and third-place game will be shown in 3-D. Viewers will need a 3-D television and should contact their local television service provider for more information on how to experience these matches.

All 64 games in the month-long tournament will be shown in high definition. Of those, 56 will be broadcast live on the main network.

The 2010 champion will be crowned July 11 in a match scheduled for 2 p.m. ET.

"It's on the scale of an Olympics in terms of the amount of hours that we are putting on the air and the overall commitment," said Pilling, who was executive producer of the CBC's 2008 Summer Games coverage.

"It's a different beast in we are just dealing with one sport as opposed to multiple disciplines."

On days when there are two matches on at the same time, one will be seen on the main network while the other can be viewed on CBC's digital channel Bold HD.

The game shown on Bold will be replayed on the main network later in the day. There also will be replays of the match of the day. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ESPN's investment

- Knowledgeable U.S. soccer fans — it's not an oxymoron. ESPN is making a huge investment in World Cup coverage, paying $100 million US for the rights to the 2010 and 2014 tournaments, based on the conviction that not only do Americans know the beautiful game, they want all they can get.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

SOCCER Brazil President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva has defended the World Cup squad picked by coach Dunga. However, he singled out one player who might have been included — Ronaldinho. Silva said yesterday in a radio interview that Ronaldinho "deserved another chance."

SOCCER Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk doesn't think Arjen Robben will be fit in time to face Denmark in the team's World Cup opener. Robben is nursing a hamstring injury that he suffered during a 6-1 win over Hungary in a friendly on Saturday, and was set to undergo further tests later yesterday.

SOCCER North Korea striker Jong Tae Se says the Asian side can beat Brazil. North Korea plays the South American powerhouse in the teams' World Cup opener next week in Johannesburg. Brazil is one of the tournament favourites but Jong said yesterday, "We can win against Brazil." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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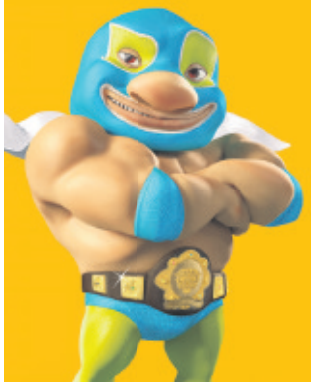
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$15 million for UCN The Pas campus expansion

The Manitoba government announced this week a $15 million investment in the University College of the North campus in The Pas, funding renovations to the existing campus and a new library and child-care facility. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

No more credit cards for VIU tuition

Effective this September, Vancouver Island University will no longer accept credit card payments for tuition or for student union and activity fees. The cost to administer credit card payments at the university is over $420,000 per year, with credit card fees between $330,000 and $340,000 annually. VIU joins a number of Canadian institutions that have either stopped accepting credit cards for tuition payments or are considering such a policy. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Harness your star power

KEITH CARMAN
for Metro Canada

You're the new hotshot on the corporate block but nobody's heard of you? Maybe it's time to look at your promotional strategy.

Formulating a branding plan is the first rule of virtually every notable personality — from U.S. President Barack Obama to Ellen De Generes.

"The common thread of success among (celebrities) is the fame formula," notes Maggie Jessup, co-author of Fame 101, a book dedicated to professional success secrets. "They packaged their expertise into compelling personal brands, used Hollywood-level publicity to get visible and then promoted their brands to celebrity-hungry target communities."

Maggie and partner Jay Jessup know how celebrities become popular, rich and happy due to their experience in their own publicity/branding boutique, Platform Strategy. Everyone from start-up gurus and scientists to actors, authors, lawyers and royalty have utilized their services with great success.

Taking that experience to study the career models of 75 celebrities, the Jessups have boiled down branding's rudimentary aspects into Fame 101.

"People who promote and publicize their personal brand enjoy three strong benefits: Greater visibility, enhanced credibility and increased income," notes Jay, reiterating that victory relies on creating a familiar, friendly visage.

You can maintain publicity by being snappy and entertaining, write a book — "A successful book will change anyone's professional life overnight" — and speak publicly whenever possible in order to connect with large groups fast.

"Look around at the next big event you attend," he adds. "The big brands are onstage delivering a 20-minute talk. It could easily be you. Very visible people are simply more successful. Personal branding done well delivers increased credibility and that in turn gives you an edge in any professional activity. Great personal brands attract clients, win career opportunities and enjoy substantial financial rewards."

However, the Jessups declare that you need something to offer in the first place. Personal branding is about maximizing that potential. While success can be expedient, continued prosperity takes time and continued work, even after one begins to reap rewards. However, once you find your niche, you don't have to be the next Oprah Winfrey, Maggie points out, anyone can make personal branding profitable.

"A coffee shop waitress can become an immensely successful national brand using the fame formula; Suze Orman did. A recently divorced mother, barely getting by as a bank teller can quickly change her fortunes and join society's elite; Paula Deen did."

Fame 101 authors highlight five favourite, brilliantly executed personal brands

- John Travolta: Went from B-list player to million-dollar movie superstar, "by harnessing the power of publicity and continuously evolving his personal brand."
- Rachael Ray: From grocery-store aisle pitch girl to cooking superstar with television shows, a magazine and book deals, "she's adept at personal branding and publicity but stays on top by remaining nice despite becoming one of the era's most powerful brands."
- President Obama and Sarah Palin: "Politics aside, each has captured and maintained a niche with the most powerful branding, publicity and promotion of the millennium."
- Ellen De Generes: "We don't even need to say her last name, her brand is that powerful. Ellen is a great example of the lifetime value of consistently working on your personal brand while staying visible."

"People who promote and publicize their personal brand enjoy three strong benefits: Greater visibility, enhanced credibility and increased income."
Fame 101 co-author Jay Jessup

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CONNECT & COLLABORATE

By Dave Mather and Lisa Pires – Dale Carnegie Business Group

We are all interconnected, and social networks make it easier to stay connected. Social networks can be a gigantic waste of time, or enhance the quality of our lives. It's not the tool itself but how we use it that counts. A hammer in the wrong hands can smash a thumb but, in the hands of a master craftsman, proper tools create beautiful things.

One important social network is right in front of our face - the people in our organization. For example, the person to whom I report is often a gatekeeper to advancement. Here are two sets of questions to ask them.

Here are two sets of questions to ask:

1) What initiatives are we driving? How do we make money? What is our business model?
2) How does my job support the current and/or future business model? How is my performance measured?

To some, these questions seem self-evident. We've even received feedback from those afraid to ask out of fear of being fired. Their hesitation is misguided. When people sincerely ask these questions, most managers, executives, or business owners respond with genuine excitement and enthusiasm. In one case, the person was promoted on the spot. What began as a brief 5-10 minute conversation, turned into an engaging and valuable dialogue.

The goal of asking these questions is to stay connected to the person and the organization's purpose, values, and strategic framework. Listen from the perspective of what it's like to be the other person, rather than trying to get them to see your point of view. They will be more interested in your ideas after they sense your genuine interest in them and their commitments.

People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

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Think twice before taking on old clients

WorkplaceLaw

Employment is a two-way street. Just as they can be dismissed without notice, employees are not "owned." They are always free to leave. However, disputes often arise when they try to take their clients with them.

Since clients' affiliations often lie with the relationships that are built and the key employees who have built them, courts permit employers to protect their clients through contractual limits on post-employment solicitation.

But what happens when there is no contract at all?

To many clients, professional engineers Robert Whyte and Bill Dainty were the "face" of their firm, Aquafor Beech. As well, their work accounted for a quarter of the company's revenue.

In the fall of 2003, Whyte and Dainty left Aquafor and established their own competing engineering firm, Calder Engineering. Many of their clients remained with Aquafor; however, a few decided to leave and continue their relationships with Calder along with two more Aquafor employees.

Aquafor suspected that Whyte and Dainty had acted inappropriately by improperly soliciting clients and employees.

However, Aquafor did not have employment contracts with Whyte and Dainty that prohibited them from working for a competitor or soliciting its clients. Without contracts, there is nothing to stop ordinary employees from leaving and then competing for business. But this is not the case for fiduciary employees, who have obligations to their former employers and can render them vulnerable both during and after their departure.

If you're considered a fiduciary employee by your employer, you may be required to act in the best interests of that company even after you've left, which includes soliciting former clients.

Since they played significant roles at Aquafor, the court ascribed to them fiduciary titles. However, there was no evidence of unfair competition, so Aquafor's case was dismissed.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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UWO launches Centre for Human Immunology

The University of Western Ontario announced last week the creation of the Centre for Human Immunology, a London-wide, multidisciplinary initiative led by the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and the Lawson Health Research Institute. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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11 p.m. is no time to start work

Delaying the start time for an overnight shift could help late-night workers get more shut-eye off duty and feel less tired on the job, a new study suggests.

A research abstract presented yesterday at the annual meeting of Associated Professional Sleep Societies LLC in San Antonio, Texas, analyzed the effect shift start time had on workers' predicted total sleep time off-hours, as well as on fatigue during a shift.

"Our findings were in two arenas: How much sleep they were able to get, and how fatigued they were during the shift," said lead author Angela Bowen, a research assistant with the Sleep and Performance Research Center at Washington State University Spokane.

The study predicted the minimum fatigue at work took place during a shift starting at 9 a.m. The maximum on-the-job fatigue occurred with shifts starting at 11 p.m.

So why is it that someone clocking in at 11 p.m. is at a potential disadvantage compared to someone starting at midnight? Simply put, they're not getting enough pre-shift sleep.

Bowen said the theory is that everyone has a circadian rhythm, and that's your body clock, which is set with light exposure. That's what makes it easier to either stay awake — or fall asleep — during different periods of the day.

"Most people can fall asleep really easily between about midnight and 6 a.m., that's when your body is really ready to sleep for most people," Bowen said.

On the flipside, the time period between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. is sometimes called a "wake-maintenance zone" and is a period when it's generally more difficult to fall asleep, she noted.

"If a shift starts at 11 p.m., the likelihood that you'd be able to have take a good quality sleep before going on is unlikely."
Angela Bowen

"If a shift starts at 11 p.m., the likelihood that you'd be able to take a good quality sleep before going on is unlikely but at midnight, just that little hour later, it would be a little easier for you to get more sleep before that shift," Bowen said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Canadian universities golden at EcoCAR Challenge
Three Canadian university teams participating in the EcoCAR Challenge in San Diego have been named winners of individual awards. The University of Victoria , the University of Ontario Institute of Technology and the University of Waterloo all won awards. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

Silverado priced
GM of Canada has announced the base price of the new 2011 Chevrolet Silverado HD pickup: The 2500 regular cab 2WD model starts at $35,600.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Highlander Hybrid hip enough

Green living, suburban style co-exist in SUV

NEIL MOORE
for Metro Canada

Clean, unadorned sheet metal, big 19-inch alloys and a distinctive trapezoidal front grille give the 2010 Toyota Highlander Hybrid a strong presence.

It seems quite the contradiction — the hybrid SUV.

Hybrids — in general — are the darlings of the urban "greenie," along with cloth grocery bags, fair trade lattes and David Suzuki documentaries.

SUVs on the other hand are the flagships of suburban excess. When they're not taking the lone executive on his or her daily two-hour commute, these gas guzzlers are loaded up with kids' soccer teams or schlepping mass quantities of boxes and cans from the local Costco.

Can these two interests co-exist?

I'd say "yes" as many of the former eventually have kids and move out to the 'burbs. And besides, not all of us who have shunned downtown living hate the environment.

Still, there aren't many hybrid SUVs on the market. Among them are the behemoth Chevrolet Tahoe and GMC Yukon hybrids, the compact Ford Escape hybrid, the premium Lexus RX 450h (starting at just under $60K) and the even pricier (and less green) BMW ActiveHybrid X6, priced at just under $100K.

The Highlander Hybrid, starting at $43,025, is comparatively well priced, and for a mid-sized SUV, is surprisingly roomy and can realistically accommodate up to seven passengers.

2010 Toyota Highlander Hybrid

Type: mid-size SUV
Price: base $43,025
Engine: DOHC 3.3 Litre DOHC, 24-Valve V6
Fuel Economy: 7.4/8.0/7.7 L/100 km (city/hwy/combined)

Highlights

- Accommodates up to seven passengers
- Upscale looks

Some have criticized its styling, calling it slab-sided and plain. I like its uncluttered sheet metal. And when decked out in Limited trim — as was my tester for the week — with its big 19-inch alloys and roof-mounted spoiler, the Highlander looks quite upscale.

Like all Highlanders, it is powered by 3.3 Litre DOHC, 24-Valve V6, working with high-torque electric motors front and rear. Combined, Toyota's Hybrid Synergy Drive delivers 270 hp across a broad power band and up to 212 lb/ft of torque. This is mated to a continuously variable transmission.

Despite its size, the Highlander launches quickly and enjoys a strong, linear flow of power. This hybrid is no wimp, but quickly loses the fuel-saving benefits of its green powerplant when you mash the pedal.

The Highlander Hybrid is less about compromise and more about delivering the benefits you'd expect from an SUV — with few of the downsides. And it shouldn't attract the scorn of your chardonnay-sipping downtown friends, who may even invite you to their own big-box shopping adventure.

smart adds shades of grey

NEW MODEL smart Canada is continuing its series of special edition models with the introduction of the smart fortwo edition greystyle.

Limited to just 50 units in Canada, the smart fortwo edition greystyle coupe starts from $21,750, and the cabriolet starts from $24,750. Striking accents and an exclusive matte grey finish combine to create a modern appearance for this latest edition to the smart line-up that is now on sale at dealerships across the country.

In Canada, the greystyle edition models are powered by the fuel-efficient 70 hp gasoline engine that offers excellent fuel economy and low vehicle emissions.

In fact, Natural Resources Canada has named the smart fortwo as the most fuel-efficient vehicle in the two-seater class for three consecutive years.

The interior features an exclusive combination of fabric and leather with yellow accents and trim parts finished in yellow and matte chrome. The yellow accents are also found in the double stitching of the nappa leather seats, which is the same leather used in premium Mercedes-Benz models. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Ford ready for Google Maps

Drivers of late-model Ford vehicles equipped with Sync Traffic, Directions and Information (TDI) will soon be able to plot out their routes using Google Maps on their home computer and then download turn-by-turn directions directly to the car. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Nothing that a deadline won't fix

AutoPilot

Mike Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

New and tougher standards for vehicle fuel efficiency and emissions are on the way.

They kick in for 2011 model-year vehicles, and get exceedingly tougher each year, for the next five. This will set the table for 2016 model-year vehicles to be about 30 per cent more fuel-efficient than they are today.

That's a humongous jump.

Auto analyst, Denis DesRosiers, noted in an industry get-together last week, that, by his reckoning, relative fuel efficiency over the last 28 years has increased only about 12 per cent.

You might wonder, then, how the heck the automakers are going to make that much bigger leap in five short years?

Well, at that same industry get-together six Canadian auto companies told us how their respective R&D teams are planning to "get 'er done" (so to speak), and it's my sad duty to report that none will involve anything as snazzy as Flux Capacitors, Quantum Physics, or Star Trek-ian Dilithium Crystals.

All of them noted that their strategies will consist of more of what they're already doing: introducing more hybrids and EVs; refining the internal-combustion engine and their transmissions; introducing more attractive cars with tidier proportions; adding "lightness" to electrical and mechanical systems.

In fact, Hyundai Canada's president, Steve Kelleher, noted that the Korean automaker wouldn't even need five years; it plans to meet the 2016 standards by 2015.

Even a luxury make, like Audi, isn't worried. Audi Canada's president and CEO, Martin Sander, noted that the company is totally on-track to meet the 2016 standards, and will do so without veering off the Audi playbook, which calls for lots of performance and cuddly comforts.

So I'm thinking, "Way to go, guys!"

But I'm also thinking, "You guys weren't holding out on us were you?"

As a journalist I've lived with deadlines all my life — I am extremely aware of how effective they are at lighting a fire under one's butt, and how creativity is actually enhanced, when that fire spreads to your hair.

These automakers also have deadlines imposed on them by their competitors.

If you plot when most manufacturers will have a "plug in" electric vehicle (EV) ready for sale in Canada, it's apparent that the electric party starts in late 2011. And who wants to be late for a party?

By 2012 we will have at least 10 different makes and models of EVs available for purchase or lease.

Toyota Canada's managing director, Stephen Beatty, refers to this coming EV cohort as the "critical mass" that will make EV "a major movement in the auto industry."

The Mitsubishi iMiev, left, and the Nissan Leaf will be available in Canada by 2012.

2012 Electric Avenue

Confirmed plug-ins ready-to-go by the next 18 months:

- Nissan Leaf
- Chevrolet Volt
- Toyota Prius PHEV
- Ford Transit Connect
- Ford Focus Electric
- Mitsubishi iMiEV
- Smart ForTwo EV
- Fisker Karma
- Tesla Roadster

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

Majority of an average car's content by weight can be recycled.

Scrap yards keep eye on environment

Say "scrap yard" and some people conjure up images of crushed cars, and piles of parts left alone to rust with little concern for the environment, but nothing could be further from the truth. The reality is that scrap yards are better known as automotive recyclers, and that's exactly what they do — recycle.

Recyclers that are members of the Automotive Recyclers of Canada are committed to maintaining the highest standards of environmental stewardship when recycling vehicles.

As the majority of an average car's content by weight can be recycled and hazardous liquids can be disposed of safely, recyclers take the necessary steps to ensure that cars are permanently retired so they don't pollute again, and that cars are recycled in the most environmentally responsible way possible.

Stage 1 - Pre-treatment: drainage of operating fluids

All fluids are drained and stored for re-use or recycling. Special equipment and methods are used in order to prevent any groundwater contamination.

Did you know?

An average of 40 litres of fluids are removed from each vehicle and are used, re-used or responsibly disposed of.

Stage 2 - Parts re-use: dismantling of parts and components

Parts that do not contribute to that car's emissions are removed, inspected and readied for resale or recycling. Parts related to the engine or transmission are never reused, as they were creating the smog in the first place.

Did you know?

After testing, batteries that are in good condition are sold to customers for re-use. Others are sent to a licensed recycling facility to be rebuilt.

Stage 3 - Recycling of materials

The unusable portion of the vehicle is crushed and sent to be shredded for recovery. Any valuable metals are separated and re-used to make new cars and other consumer products, reducing the demand for raw materials.

Did you know?

Seventy-five per cent of an average car's content by weight can be recycled.

If you want to ensure that your car is permanently retired and responsibly recycled, you can participate in the Retire Your Ride program. NEWS CANADA

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*Limited time finance offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. Base MSRP of $23,015/$24,015/$29,930 for a new 2010 5-door Golf 2.5L / 2010 Jetta 2.5L / 2010 Tiguan 2.0T base model with 5-speed manual transmission / 5-speed manual transmission / 6-speed manual transmission, including $1,365 freight and PDI for 2010 5-door Golf / 2010 Jetta and $1,580 freight and PDI for 2010 Tiguan, $29 EHF, $100 air conditioning tax, if any, $5 OMVIC fee, $46 PPSA and $295 dealer administrative charge. Financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals $639.31/$667.08/$831.39 per month. Agincourt Autohaus Volkswagen may sell for less. Down payment or equivalent trade-in, due at signing, may be required. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $23,015/$24,015/$29,930. License, insurance, registration, options, TFFC, if applicable, and other applicable taxes are extra. Offer ends June 30, 2010 and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. 2010 5-door Golf 2.5L as shown is $24,415 with options and accessories. 2010 Jetta 2.5L as shown is $26,715 with options and accessories. 2010 Tiguan 2.0T as shown is $36,705 with options and accessories. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. **Up to $750 rebate for recent college or university graduates. Certain conditions apply. Visit vwdirect.ca or Agincourt Autohaus Volkswagen for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Golf", "Jetta" and "Tiguan" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. "Das Auto & Design" and "TDI Clean Diesel" are trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2010 Volkswagen Canada.

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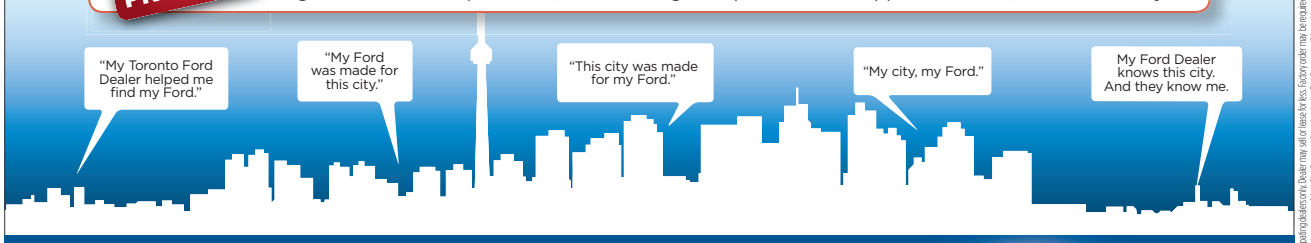


torontoforddealers.ca

Ford Drive one.

Offer available at participating Dealer; Dealer may sell or lease for less. Factory order may be required. Limited time offer. Offer may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your dealer for details. ‡Offer valid from May 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010. $0 first payment applies to the first month payment for finance customers making payments by weekly interest, or the sum of the first and second payments for finance customers making payments bi-weekly (every two weeks). "First Payment"). First Payment is required from customer on the purchase finance lease of eligible new 2010 Ford vehicles delivered on or before June 30, 2010. Customer will receive a finance lease for the amount of First Payment less the dealer. First Payment will be paid up to a maximum amount of $500. (3,750 / 50,000 km eligible) 2010 Focus, Fusion, Escape, Ranger[], Mustang (excluding GT500), Taurus, Edge, Flex, Explorer, Explorer Sport Trac, Transit Connect, E-Series (excluding Cutaway and Stripped Chassis)[] (excluding Raptor), F-150 (excluding Raptor). Offer may be available to customers who finance or lease through Ford Credit. Offer is only available on customer purchase finance contracts. Offer is only available on customer purchase finance contracts. Offer is only available on customer purchase finance contracts

Dodge unveils new logo

Dodge has unveiled a new logo, featuring the name with a pair of red racing stripes. The company said that Dodge designers sketched the new logo after Dodge and Ram Truck were clearly defined as separate brands with their own identities and consumers. **CANADIANDRIVER.COM**

Processor power can get cars talking

IBM researchers aim to develop 'cognitive car'

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

It's said that the average car today has more computing power than the rocket that put a man on the moon.

A new research project by IBM and McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont., is working on the theory of a "cognitive car" that will connect the vehicle's multiple microprocessors, which currently work in isolation, to provide important information for the driver.

Driving Force

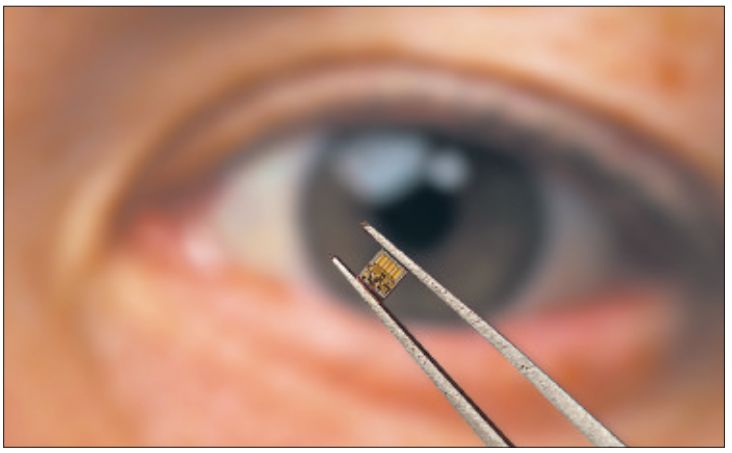
Such a car might predict vehicle failures before they happen, save fuel by sending the driver on less-congested routes, or even "talk" to other cars behind it to warn about hazardous road conditions up ahead.

"The average car has a minimum of 20 microprocessors, all connected with multiple networks," says Don Aldridge, general manager of research and life sciences at IBM Canada.

"The objective is to eliminate as many of the separate devices as possible and consolidate them into one, if we can."

The research includes a grant award from IBM and is intended to study how using a single IBM multi-core processor could improve vehicle efficiency and safety. The processor, originally developed for video games, is now used for a wide range of applications.

As mainstream electric cars get closer to their market launch, such microprocessors could be used to help drivers charge their cars at optimum times.



Advanced microprocessors can make cars more intuitive and safer to drive.

At the moment, you have an automobile that's talking to the GPS system. It could also communicate with automobiles behind it, so that you'd know that black ice is up ahead because the cars share that with each other.
IBM's Don Aldridge

"One of the challenges of electric vehicles will be fear of running out of juice," Aldridge says. "By tying into a simple GPS requirement, it would give options for charging wherever I happen to be. You also start tying into the system — am I potentially charging at a peak time, or not? The system should be smart enough to give you guidance and minimize the cost."

A car connected in such a way could know its location and how much power is left in its battery, tell its driver where the nearest charging station is located and, depending on whether prices are peak or off-peak, how much it would cost to recharge.

The microprocessors could also simplify car-to-car communication.

"At the moment, you have an automobile that's talking to the GPS system," Aldridge says. "It could also communicate with automobiles behind it, so that you'd know that black ice is up ahead because the cars share that with each other.

"The research is just beginning and we are just at the early stages, but now we've started the process, and it will continue to evolve. When you start going from dozens of little computers all over the place to smaller numbers, and possibly one, it could reduce the price."

E-Class Cabriolet steps it up

NEW MODEL Pricing for the 2011 E-Class Cabriolet has been announced with the E350 Cabriolet, powered by a 268 hp V6, beginning at $67,900.

The 382 hp E550 Cabriolet will start from $77,500.

New features include:

- The standard AIRCAP automatic draft-stop: always on board and easily controllable at the push of a button, it significantly reduces turbulence inside the luxuriously appointed cabin for all four occupants;
- The modified AIRSCARF neck-level heating system;
- The sound-dampening soft top fitted as standard;

The fully automatic soft top can be opened and closed within 20 seconds — even when driving at speeds of up to 40 km/h.

The cabriolet roof is stowed in a special compartment behind the rear panel. A retractable cover separates the soft top compartment from the trunk area.

If the roof remains closed, the cover can be slid rearwards, which increases trunk capacity by 90 litres (3.17 cu. ft.) to 391 litres (13.8 cu. ft.).

A through-loading feature is also included as standard for the new Cabriolet, as is the EASY-ENTRY aid for rear passengers.

The power plants for the new E-Class Cabriolet are equally innovative: the engines combine efficiency with effortlessly superior power delivery.

The E350 Cabriolet is powered by a 268 hp V6 producing 258 lb/ft of torque, and the E550 Cabriolet develops 382 hp and 391 lb/ft of torque from the 5.5 litre V8.

Thanks to its sound-dampening soft top, even the closed E-Class Cabriolet has one of the quietest interiors in the segment for four-seater premium cabriolets with a fabric roof.

The soft top's insulation provides a noticeable reduction in the interior noise level compared to conventional fabric soft tops. Exterior noise caused by other vehicles and wind noise are therefore absorbed more effectively.

The new E-Class Cabriolet offers the wealth of safety innovations one would expect from a Mercedes-Benz model. Highlights of the open-top two-door model include roll over protection, A-pillars reinforced by two additional tubes and plug-in B-pillars.

This new model is also the first Mercedes-Benz cabriolet to feature head bags. **FROM CARGUIDE**

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vw.ca

*Limited time finance offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. Base MSRP of $23,173/$24,173/$30,088 for a new 2010 5-door Golf 2.5L / 2010 Jetta 2.5L / 2010 Tiguan 2.0T base model with 5-speed manual transmission / 5-speed manual transmission / 6-speed manual transmission, including $1,365 freight and PDI for 2010 5-door Golf / 2010 Jetta and $1,580 freight and PDI for 2010 Tiguan, $29 EHF, $100 air conditioning tax, if any, $5 OMVIC fee, up to $499 dealer administration fee and $46 PPSA . Financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals $626.11/$653.89/$818.19 per month. Dealer may sell for less. Down payment or equivalent trade-in, due at signing, may be required. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $23,173/$24,173/$30,088. Government levies, OMVIC fee, dealer administration fee and PPSA fee are not financed and are due at signing. License, insurance, registration, options, TFFC, if applicable, and other applicable taxes are extra. Offer ends June 30, 2010 and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. 2010 5-door Golf 2.5L as shown is $31,073 with options and accessories. 2010 Jetta 2.5L as shown is $31,239 with options and accessories. 2010 Tiguan 2.0T as shown is $43,438 with options and accessories. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. **Up to $750 rebate for recent college or university graduates. Certain conditions apply. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Golf", "Jetta" and "Tiguan" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. "Das Auto & Design" and "TDI Clean Diesel" are trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2010 Volkswagen Canada.

Biofuel promise in Nova Scotia
The next biofuel breakthrough might be coming from the Canadian east coast. A new project has been launched in Nova Scotia that could produce renewable fuels from algae on a large scale. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Jeep packs big power

Drivers drawn to Grand style

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada

MODEL: 1999 to 2004
VEHICLE TYPE: 4x4
APPROXIMATED USED PRICE RANGE: $2,500 to $15,000

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION: Some time before cute-utes and soft-roaders began taking over the Canadian utility vehicle scene, Jeep was putting down roots as a sought-after brand when real all-terrain capability and on-road comfort were priorities.

The Jeep Grand Cherokee was arguably the original luxury sport utility vehicle, and its last full generation was available from 1999 to 2007 packed with more features, off-road prowess and luxury than ever.

With advanced four-wheel drive, available V8 power and plenty of luxurious extras, there's bound to be a Jeep Grand Cherokee in the used market for virtually any shopper.

Standard power came from a 195-horsepower, four-litre straight six, which is argued to be one of the most reliable American engines of all time. This unit was replaced by a 3.7 litRE V6 later in the last-generation Grand Cherokee's life.

Second Gear

Should either six-cylinder workhorse not provide enough snap for your needs, a 4.7 liter V8 was also available, with 235 or 265 horsepower, depending how new a model you're considering.

The 1999-2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee may not be thrifty but it has the performance you want from a 4x4.

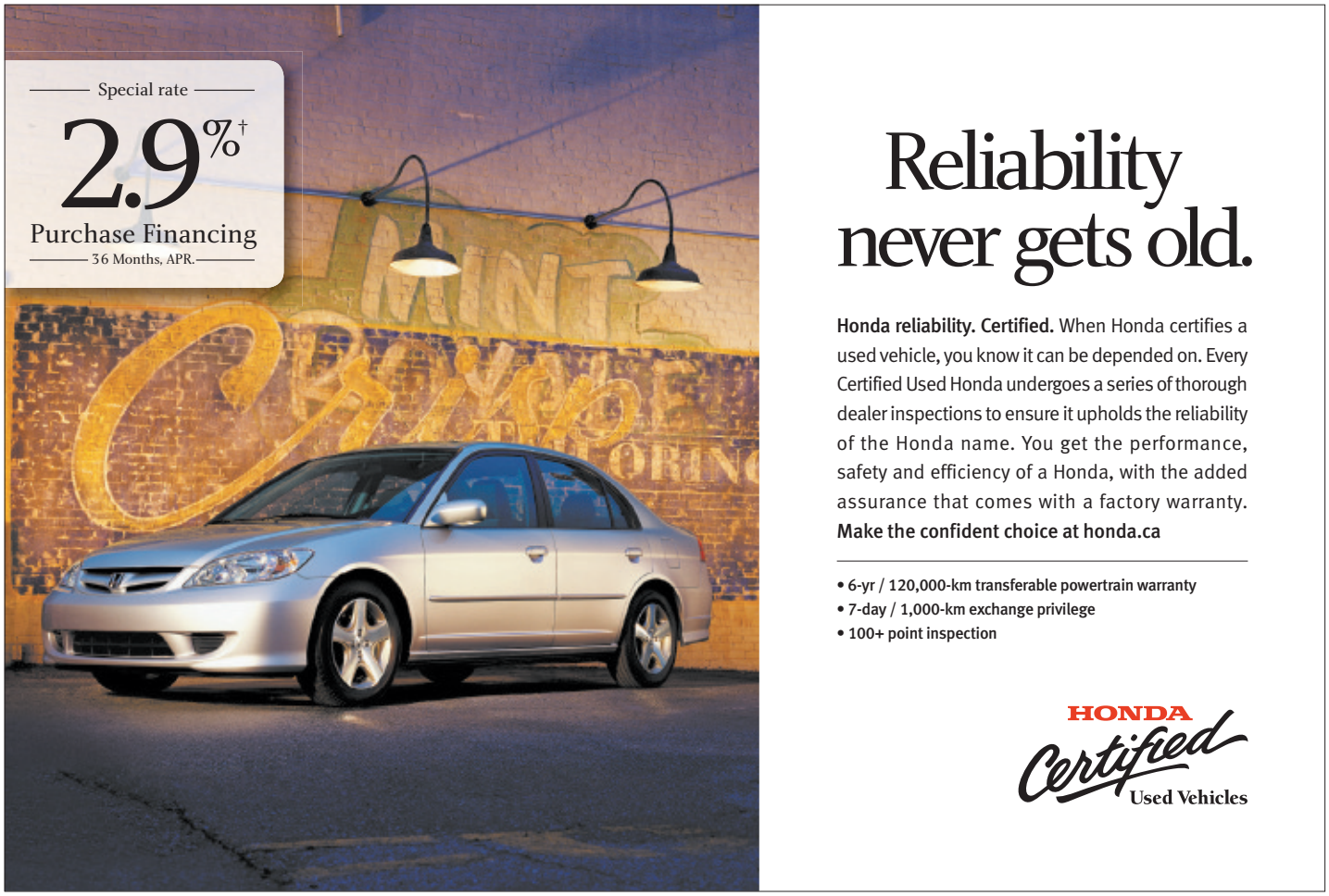
WHAT OWNERS LIKE: No surprises here: capability, cargo room and all-season driving confidence were the main draws of the Grand Cherokee. Styling, performance and power were also highly rated.

WHAT OWNERS HATE: Typical Grand Cherokee complaints include vague steering, a noisy mechanical cooling fan, a bouncy ride, and of course, hefty fuel consumption.

COMMON ISSUES: For the most part, the Grand Cherokee's driveline hardware was trouble-free and reliable. Problems with engines, transmissions and transfer cases look few and far between, though several important checks should be considered mandatory before agreeing to purchase a used model.

Ensure all windows operate in both directions as expected — otherwise a window-regulator replacement may be on the horizon. Ensure brakes are up to par too– and that there's no shuddering or squealing while driving or stopping. A mechanic can assess the condition of the Grand Cherokee's braking system in a few minutes.

THE VERDICT: A non-abused and well-maintained last-generation Grand Cherokee isn't the thriftiest way to travel, though it remains a popular used 4x4 buy for owners who need plenty of power and prowess.



†Limited time financing offer on all Honda Certifed Used Civics available through Honda Financial Services, on approved credit. Offer only available up to 36 months on Honda Certified Used Honda Civics (2005–2009 model years). Finance example based on 2005 model: $10,000 at 2.9% per annum equals $290.37 per month for 36 months. Cost of borrowing is $453.42 for a total obligation of $10,453.42. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and fees are not included. See your Honda dealer for full details. Dealer may sell for less. Offer expires June 30, 2010.

2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab SLT shown[6].

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2010 Ram 3500 Crew Cab Laramie 4x4 shown[8].

+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

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SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

Wise customers read the fine print: •, *, †, ±, §. Month of the Ram Sales Event offers apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused Ram models purchased between June 1 and June 30, 2010 from participating retailers. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change without notice. See participating retailer for complete details and conditions. •$25,999 Purchase Price applies to 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab® SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR) only and includes $8,250 Consumer Cash Discount Offer. See participating retailer for complete details. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax, tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees; other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2009/2010 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. †0% purchase financing for 36 months available to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank, TD Financing Services and GMAC on most 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models, except Challenger, Caliber Canada Value Package and SE Plus, Grand Caravan Canada Value Package and Cargo Van, Sprinter and Ram Chassis Cab. Example: 2010 Ram 1500 Quad Cab® SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR) with a Purchase Price of $25,999 financed at 0% for 36 months equals monthly payments of $722.19; cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $25,999. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax, tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees; other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. ±Variable Prime Rate financing up to 84 months is offered on approved credit on most new 2010 vehicles to qualified retail customers through TD Financing Services and Royal Bank of Canada. Bi-weekly payments shown are based on 84 month terms. Variable rate shown is based on TD and RBC Prime Rate and fluctuates accordingly. Payments and financing term may increase or decrease with rate fluctuations. RBC offer not open to residents of Quebec. TD offer is not open to residents of New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon, Nunavut and Northwest Territories. Some conditions apply. See participating retailer for complete details. §2010 Ram 3500 Crew Cab Laramie 4x4 shown. Price: $61,495. 2010 Ram 1500 Crew Cab SLT 4x2 with SLT Plus Group shown. Price: $38,035. Pricing excludes applicable Consumer Cash, freight ($1,400), licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. ‡Based on U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) scoring system for 2010 model year Ram. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under license.

Michelin's sunflower power
Michelin's new luxury performance tire, the Primacy MXM4, uses sunflower oil to create a unique rubber compound for improved performance. The tires are original equipment on some Mercedes-Benz, Infiniti and Buick vehicles, and will be available to consumers next month. METRO NEWS SERVICES

BMW sassy like Jordan

Juno-winning singer's 528 xDrive has sharp personality

Sass Jordan drives a 2009 Series 5 BMW similar to the one above.

Name: Sass Jordan

Who she is: Canadian Juno Award-winning rock singer and songwriter and former Canadian Idol judge. Jordan will be performing at Yonge-Dundas Square on Friday in a free concert called Canadian Divas to kick of this year's Luminato festival. She's also planning her next record and her next tour.

Her driver: A silver 2009 BMW 528 xDrive sedan. It's James Bond colour!

Why the BMW: I love this car because she's so much fun to drive. I've had a bunch of different Bimmers and I just love the way they drive. They just drive incredibly well. They're kind of temperamental I would say. As long as you keep them in perfect condition and you take them for their check-ups every couple of months, she's OK. But when these guys go down, they are dead down. Like you have to get on a flatbed truck and take her in to see the doc. But if you keep them in top shape, they perform really really well.

What's your favourite feature? Her personality (laughs). She giggles, she worries about you if you're depressed (laughs harder). She always says "welcome home" when she meets you at the airport. It's just the feeling of this car around me. You feel like you're in a really solid structure as opposed to some other cars that I've been in. Like I love the Toyota Prius but it feels like you're riding in a tin can.

Driving style: Fairly quick. But I'm not into speeding. I'm not into being stopped because it puts a dent in my day and my insurance. So, I pretty much drive the speed limit or 10 above.

What did you name your car? Hermione. She just looked like one. There's a song from David Bowie in the 1960s that's called Letter to Hermione. The name just kind of stuck with me. Then I found out the Harry Potter series has a character with the same name.

What would we find in the glove compartment? You would find some envelopes for putting cheques in the bank and the owner's manual. That's it. And there's nothing in my trunk. Right now there's a guitar in the back seat, but that's it.

Heather Buchan is a Toronto-based journalist who has worked at Homemakers, Canadian Living, Canadian House & Home and, most recently, Hello! Canada, where she cut her teeth in the world of celebrities.

PHOTO BY DEREK SHARP
Rocker Sass Jordan performs at Yong-Dundas Square Friday.

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Get a great deal on expert vehicle care with a Spring/Summer Service Special and score a FREE Mopar soccer ball.‡
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ONLY AT YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD CHRYSLER, JEEP®, DODGE, RAM RETAILER
Service and pricing applicable only at participating Chrysler, Jeep®, Dodge, Ram retailers until August 1, 2010. Prices do not include taxes. Retailers are free to set individual prices. See your participating Chrysler, Jeep®, Dodge, Ram retailers for complete details. ‡While quantities last. Soccer ball may not be exactly as shown. Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC, used under licence by Chrysler Canada Inc.

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HWY 4.0L/100 KM (71 MPG)† CITY 3.7L/100 KM (76 MPG)†

all-in price* $29,419
Includes freight and fees. GST/PST are extra.

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Most fuel-efficient vehicle in its class, ten years in a row††

Most Dependable Compact Car in the U.S.∞

2011 Camry Hybrid

HWY 5.7L/100 KM (50 MPG)† CITY 5.7L/100 KM (50 MPG)†

all-in price* $32,935
Includes freight and fees. GST/PST are extra.

up to $2000 GOVERNMENT REBATE ELIGIBLE* PLUS $1000 MANUFACTURERS CASH INCENTIVE◇ PLUS $1000 CASH DEALER DISCOUNT* = UP TO $4000 IN TOTAL SAVINGS

ENDS JUNE 30TH

2010 Highlander Hybrid

HWY 8.0L/100 KM (35 MPG)† CITY 7.4L/100 KM (38 MPG)†

all-in price* $44,720
Includes freight and fees. GST/PST are extra.

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ONTARIO TOYOTA DEALERS Real people. Great cars.

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Limited time lease and finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. All-in price of a new 2010 Prius (Model KN3DUPA), 2011 Camry Hybrid (Model BB3KPA) and 2010 Highlander Hybrid (Model BW3EHCA) is $29,419/$32,935/$44,720. All-In price includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). GST/PST, licensing, registration, insurance and TFFC are extra. Dealer may sell for less. *$1,000/$1,000/$1,000 Cash Dealer Discount is available for all Toyota retail customers **except** customers who lease or purchase finance through Toyota Financial Services at a special rate of interest offered by Toyota as part of a low rate interest program. All advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Offer valid to retail customers (excluding fleet sales) on a new 2010 Prius (Model KN3DUPA)/2011 Camry Hybrid (Model BB3KPA)/2010 Highlander Hybrid (Model BW3EHCA) when purchased **at a participating** Ontario Toyota dealership. Vehicle must be purchased, registered and delivered by June 30, 2010. Cash Dealer Discount takes place at time of delivery and will apply before taxes have been charged on the negotiated price. ◇$3,000/$1,000/$1,500 Manufacturer's Cash Incentive is available for all Toyota retail customers **except** customers who lease or purchase finance through Toyota Financial Services at a special rate of interest offered by Toyota as part of a low rate interest program. All advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Offer valid to retail customers (excluding fleet sales) on a new 2010 Prius (Model KN3DUPA)/2011 Camry Hybrid (Model BB3KPA)/2010 Highlander Hybrid (Model BW3EHCA) when purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Vehicle must be purchased, registered and delivered by June 30, 2010. Manufacturer's Cash Incentive takes place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of negotiated price. ◆You may be eligible for the Provincial Vehicles Powered By Alternative Fuels Refund Program. For more details on the Vehicles Powered By Alternative Fuels Refund Program, visit www.rev.gov.on.ca/english/refund/vpaf/. Rebate offer ends June 30, 2010 and vehicle must be purchased and deliverd by June 30, 2010. †These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. All rights are reserved. ∞The Toyota Prius and Highlander Hybrid received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact cars (Prius) and midsize multi-activity vehicles (Highlander Hybrid) in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2010 U.S. Vehicle Dependability StudySM. Study based on 52,422 U.S. consumer responses measuring problems consumers experienced in the past 12 months with three-year old vehicles (2007 model-year cars and trucks). Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed October – December 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ††ecoENERGY for Vehicles Award winner determined using the annual fuel consumption estimates for each vehicle, as published in Natural Resources Canada's Fuel Consumption Guide. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Offers are valid between June 1 and June 30, 2010 and are subject to change without notice. Please see your participating Toyota Dealer for full details.

Toyota grad program

Audi cars communicating with traffic lights

Audi has expanded its experimental Travolution project to enable vehicles to communicate directly with traffic light systems, using wireless LAN and UMTS links. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Under spell of Spyder

PETER BLEAKNEY
for Metro Canada

2011 Porsche Boxster Spyder

Type: Sports convertible
Price: from $72,900
Engine: 3.4L flat-six
HP: 320
Torque: 273 lb.-ft.

Highlights

- Boxster experience magnified
- Cool interior

It's all about the roof.

The $72,900 2011 Porsche Boxster Spyder, a lightweight "speedster" version of the Boxster S, is defined by a two-piece, manually installed fabric top that is ... how shall I put this ... a complete pain in the butt to erect.

With more snaps, hooks and buckles than a Goth boot store, and an install time of about four minutes (after some practice), you, and the Spyder's interior will be assured of a good soaking if caught in a downpour.

I mention this only because if you don't "get" the roof, you won't "get" the Spyder. This is a highly focused little sled that takes the Boxster's divine balance, steering feel, and engine response, and ramps it up a few notches. Convenience be damned. Think of the Spyder as the Boxster experience in high definition — a fair weather ticket to some serious driving fun.

Along with the 21 kgs saved by ditching the powered top, another 59 kgs is liberated by the use of lightweight 19-inch alloys, lightweight manual (and heavily bolstered) carbon fibre seats, aluminum door skins and deck lid, deletion of the climate control (you get it back for $2400), deletion of radio and cupholder (no cost options) and, as the ultimate reminder of the Spyder's mandate, neat little fabric door pulls.

Dream Car

The car's visual signature is that oh-so-sexy long rear deck with the twin fairings, a nod to the 1954 Spyder racer of James Dean infamy.

The mid-mounted dry-sump 3.4 litre flat-six puts out 320 hp and 273 lb.-ft. of torque (each up 10 units from the standard Boxster S) and the car sits 20mm lower on springs that are 10 per cent stiffer in front and 30 per cent in the rear.

Porsche Active Suspension Management system with its variable rate dampers is not offered.

And so I found myself touring the winding roads of the Niagara Wine Region on a perfect Spyder day – warm and sunny. Yes, this car is very quick, but even within the bounds of legality, the Spyder's near telepathic reading of your intentions makes for a stirring drive.

While the ride is stiffer than the standard car, it is hardly punishing – better than a 911 without PASM. Rear visibility is limited, but as with all Boxsters, the front and rear trunks offer plenty of storage.

My tour concluded at Niagara Helicopters where owner, ace pilot and ex-Porsche racer Ruedi Hafen showed his enthusiasm for the Spyder by performing some astounding heli-aerobatics just metres above the car. Way cool.

Shop 'Til You Drop...Your Rate

More Quotes = More Savings On Car Insurance

Do You Love Shopping Around For The Best Deal?

If you're like most people, you'll often spend hours doing research, checking flyers, looking for specials, and running from one store to another to make sure you get the best possible price on everyday items such as; clothes, electronics, furniture, and even groceries. Nothing beats the thrill of knowing you paid less for something by shopping at one place instead of the other, right? It all adds up, how much time you invest and knowing where to go to get the best deals could end up saving you a bundle over the long run.

When Was The Last Time You Shopped for Car Insurance?

Sadly, even the smartest shoppers often don't spend nearly the same amount of time and energy shopping for car insurance, as they do for other items. After all, car insurance can be confusing, it never goes "on sale" (it only seems to get more expensive), it isn't much "fun" to buy, and it seems like no one place always has the best prices. But what if one place allowed you to compare rates from over 30 insurance companies? And what if it would only take about 10 minutes? And you could end up saving hundreds or even thousands of dollars? This is where InsuranceHotline.com can help by providing a free, unbiased rate comparison service that can connect you with a licensed insurance broker or agent who has the lowest rate available for your driving profile.

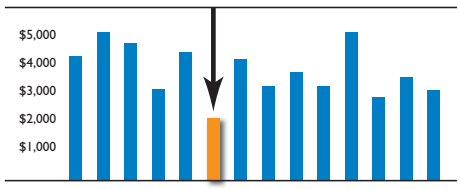
Don't Be Fooled By Others Offering To "Compare Quotes"

Unlike most of its competitors, InsuranceHotline.com does not sell insurance, is not a licensed broker or agent, and is not owned in whole or in part by an insurance company. This allows InsuranceHotline.com to be completely unbiased when providing insurance quotes and keeps its focus solely on finding the lowest insurance rates for consumers. By contrast, most websites offering to "compare insurance quotes" are owned by or affiliated with insurance brokers or agents and are therefore only capable of quoting rates from the limited number of insurance companies they represent, typically no more than 4 or 5.

Rate Comparison

Driving Record	Lowest Price	Highest Price	Savings
Clean Record	$958	$2,213	$1,255
1 Ticket	$1,018	$2,552	$1,534
1 Accident	$1,849	$3,753	$1,904

InsuranceHotline.com finds this rate for drivers – for FREE!



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SEVEN STOCK PHOTOS

Woofstock organizer Marlene Cook has created a veritable dogmobile in her 2008 Land Rover R2.

Posh poochmobile

Woofstock founder owns ultimate dog ride

HEATHER BUCHAN
for Metro Canada

Marlene Cook, the founder and organizer of Toronto's Woofstock — North America's largest dog festival, which takes place for the eighth consecutive year this weekend along Front Street in the St. Lawrence Market area — has created what can only be described as a veritable dogmobile in her SUV.

The dog lover's black 2008 Land Rover LR2 is decked out to the nines for her two soft-coated wheaten terriers, Sydney, 12, and Addison, 18 weeks.

From toys and comfort items to a doggie hammock in the back, no detail has been spared in creating the ideal environment for her pooches to enjoy rides. In fact, it's the same car that Queen Elizabeth drives her beloved corgies around in.

Aside from lots of soft blankets, pillows and covers for her canines to snuggle up in, Cook also has a hammock set up under the Land Rover's rear sunroof that her beloved pets adore riding in.

Sydney and Addison have some fun in the backseat.

"I have a paisley hammock in a really nice fabric that you put in the back," she explains.

"The reason I got the Land Rover is because it has two sun roofs, so it's nice and cool in the back for the dogs. My dogs love to stick their heads out the sunroof. I'll tie their leashes around the arm rest and just give them a little bit of lead and they can sit in the hammock stick their heads out the sunroof."

Like all dogs, Sydney and Addison love having the wind in their faces, but they also like to check out other dogs on the sidewalk or in neighbouring cars and the hammock affords them a great vantage point for both pastimes.

And in case they get thirsty along the way, Cook has that covered as well. "I also have a water bottle attached to a dish for them to drink out of in the back," she says. You have to have hydrating water for dogs in the car."

Cook's 16-year-old dog Barkley, also a wheaten terrier, passed away a few months ago, and during his last days, he would sit beside cook in the passenger seat and be comforted by the seat warmers in the Land Rover.

"He was losing so much weight so I would put a little blanket down on the seat and put on the heat and keep him warm," she explains.

It's clear that it's a dog's life for Marlene Cook and her two lucky pooches when it comes to hitting the road.

Going down the rental road

Rental cars provide the freedom to hit the road when vacationing outside our home base. Whether it's a road trip out to the cottage or a short visit out of town, navigating the ins and outs of car rental can be tricky if you're not prepared.

Canadians took more than 3.8 million trips abroad in January 2009 alone, and without a doubt many of these travelers rented vehicles for their expeditions. In order to be prepared for the wide array of options that car rental agencies offer, it's necessary to do a little bit of research on your own.

"The key is to plan ahead so you can make an informed decision about car rental insurance plans," says insurance expert Mauro Convertini from Aviva Canada.

Consider the following next time you are renting a car:

- Save on insurance: Getting coverage from the rental agency can cost up to $25 a day for two drivers, but talk to your insurer or broker as your existing policy may cover you on rentals as well. Also speak to your credit card company as some providers will cover you if the rental is made on their card.
- Get the best rate: The Internet makes it easy to compare rates. Keep an eye out for discounts and deals.
- Bring your own GPS: A GPS can be very handy when driving in unfamiliar areas. If you don't have one yourself, borrow a GPS from a friend as car rental agencies can charge up to an extra $12 a day for the convenience.

NEWS CANADA

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Travel

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From California to French Polynesia, from Jamaica to New Zealand, travel experts Jay Paris and Carmi Zona-Paris have traveled the globe in search of the ultimate in all-inclusive experiences. In the book, The 100 Best All-Inclusive Resorts of the World, the Parises bring you resorts with superior accommodations, excellent service, and a variety of on-site activities and entertainment — all for one price and with no hidden costs. You can find their book on Amazon.com for $17.95. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

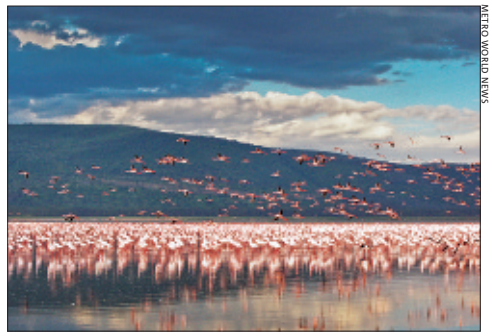
Crossing Kenya's open plains

Masai Mara's unique wildlife reserve arguably Africa's finest

NICK BOULOS
Metro World News

METRO WORLD NEWS

The marshlands are home to leopards, elephants and rhinos.



METRO WORLD NEWS

Lake Nakuru is home to several species of birds.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Stumbling upon a pride of lions is common in Masai Mara.

Masai Mara offers unparalleled views of Kenya.

Of all the places to stop, this was surely the least sensible.

Climbing out of our open-sided jeep as the whispery blades of grass of the Masai Mara crunched under foot and with nobody but my guide Charles in sight, I suddenly felt rather apprehensive.

Very apprehensive, in fact.

This was, after all, lion country. And buffalo country. And let's not forget the rest of the Big Five that call these marshlands home: leopards, elephants and rhinos. They — as well as countless other creatures — roam this 1510sq km protected reserve freely.

I had already become well accustomed to chancing upon a pride of lions in the most unlikely of places during our thrilling game drives, so I was understandably worried about my surroundings and what might be lurking nearby.

Roam this protected reserve

"Are you sure it's safe to just roam around like this?" I asked Charles as he fetched a hamper from the back of our jeep parked under the only tree to be found anywhere in sight.

He nodded reassuringly, but somewhat contradicted himself by casually mentioning that the tree under which we were standing is the official residence of the area's leopard.

I glanced skyward to see the stripped pelt of a gazelle lying on a branch and deep claw marks etched into the trunk. Sitting discarded on the parched ground was the chalk-white skull of a zebra.

The Mara spread out before us silently. Zebras and waterbucks grazed just yards away as the sun dipped beneath the hills in the far distance.

Thousands flock to the Masai Mara — arguably Africa's most famous wildlife reserve, an hour's flight from Nairobi — to catch a glimpse of the zebra and wildebeest migration. In July, millions of the animals risk death by crossing the murky, crocodile-infested Mara River to reach the Serengeti in Tanzania.

But travel at the right time and you'll have this entire wilderness to yourself. Or so it feels.

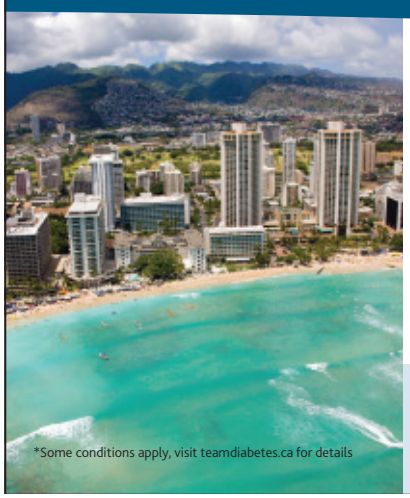
In October, for example, the bumpy tracks that criss-cross the Mara are blissfully devoid of other jeeps.

The next day, we chanced upon a cheetah feasting on a recent kill, a scared male lion stalking a wildebeest and a herd of elephants making slow progress across the horizon. Lady Luck was shining upon us as we tracked down Olive the leopard just hours before I was due to leave.

Lounging majestically across a high branch and well camouflaged, her piercing amber eyes stared down at us intently.

I could've sat there all day studying her majestic coat and twitching tail. And reassuringly, it was a different tree from the one we stopped at just a few hours before.

Make a change in your life and the lives of people living with diabetes.



*Some conditions apply, visit teamdiabetes.ca for details

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London life won't come cheap

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

There are so many must-do's in this city it's hard to know where to start.

Here's a warp-speed guide: Tower of London — beautiful-looking but a bit dull inside, Buckingham Palace — fascinating and hey, the Queen lives here, British Museum — one of the world's best, but don't expect to find anything British inside, Big Ben — a no-brainer London vacation photo, Greenwich — you'll feel an irrepressible urge to stand astride the Greenwich Meridian, Natural History, Science Museums — possibly the greatest free attractions on the planet. and a Thames riverboat trip — great value, informative and usually a load of laughs.

Oh, and they have pubs. Lots of pubs.

I'VE BEEN BEFORE — WHAT'S NEW?

What could be more British than Tea at The Ritz?

This piano-accompanied ritual, in the quintessential elegance of the most famous hotel in town, is nothing less than an institution.

It's so popular that you must book at least one month in advance. Afterwards wander down to another British institution Fortnum & Mason's in Piccadilly to slaver over one of the most extensive and delicious ranges of food on earth. In both cases you'll probably end up hitting the credit card hard — quality doesn't come cheap in London.

WHAT'S THE NIGHTLIFE LIKE?

Legendary. Too many clubs to list but don't miss Fabric in Clerkenwell for hardcore house, Koko in Camden for gigs and big DJ's, Punk in Soho for, er, everything and Floridita, in Wardour Street, for a night of very 'in' Latin dancing.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Big Ben is an easy vacation photo but London has much more.

[1]To redeem TD Points for travel purchases charged to your Card that are not booked through the TD Travel Rewards Centre (the "Centre"), Cardholder must contact the Centre after the travel purchase has been posted to the Account and within 90 days from the transaction date of the travel purchase. The required TD Points will be redeemed from the TD Points balance available on the date TD Points are redeemed for the travel purchase, not the transaction date of the travel purchase. The amount that will be credited toward the travel purchase will be equal to the value of the TD Points redeemed. If there are insufficient TD Points available to cover the entire amount of the travel purchase, the Account will only be credited by the value of the TD Points redeemed. Any amount of the travel purchase not covered by the TD Points redeemed will remain on the Account for payment. [2] Applies to new TD First Class Travel *Visa Infinite* Accounts only. Bonus TD Points will be awarded to the new Account upon approval. Offer may be changed, extended or withdrawn at any time without notice and cannot be combined with any other offer. *Trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

All aboard Johnny Depp's yacht — only $170,000 for two weeks.

Catch a glimpse of super-rich vacations

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

If you really want to see the world then you may as well do it in the penthouse suite on one of the world's finest passenger vessels complete with your own personal butler. A snip at $216,000.

Or how about a week playing Pirates of the Caribbean on Johnny Depp's very own boat? Hell, make it a fortnight, it's a bargain at $170,000.

Bit pricey? If you're a billionaire feeling the pinch you could always downsize to week in Mick Jagger's villa in Mustique — a giveaway at $11,500.

They sound insane, but these are the jaw-dropping vacation options of the super-rich.

You don't like sailing? Then step forward Bruce Willis and illusionist David Copperfield.

Action flick hero Bruce has a $6,500-per-night five bed villa on the beautiful Parrot Cay, in Turks and Caicos, in the Caribbean — incidentally a big favourite of designer Donna Karan.

Copperfield goes one better. He has a whole bay named after him — naturally enough it's called Copperfield Bay and it's part of Musha Cay in the Bahamas.

The beachfront villas are described as "so private you'll seem to disappear."What will also disappear is any sense of reality as this luxury costs a staggering $30,000-per-day.

Johnny's boat

- Johnny Depp burgessyachts.com

Two decades of excellence

Celebrating two decades in the heart of Times Square, the Millennium Broadway Hotel New York kicks off a month-long 20th Anniversary extravaganza, treating guests and visitors to daily giveaways, prize drawings and special events throughout the month of June. (millenniumhotelnyc.com) METRO NEWS SERVICES

METRO WORLD NEWS

The Rocks Pub Tour is a good place to spend a jet-lagged evening

Recharge in Sydney

Spend a laid back day after stepping off that long plane ride

JESSICA CARLSON
Metro World News

Before you hit the beach or the outback, get the best of Sydney. In a day you'll easily see the opera house, the cute Aussie animals and much more. And where ever you go there's the best harbour view in the world.

Only have one day? Sydney is often the first, and possibly the best you see of Oz. Here's how I'd spend a jet lagged, laid back day.

WHERE TO WAKE UP

The Haven Inn
196 Glebe Point Rd,
haveninnsydney.com.au

At the Haven Inn, a three-star hotel with a pool, air conditioning and A location right where I want to be — in Glebe. This is a quietly fashionable inner city suburb with a warm and laid back atmosphere, where arty intellectual locals mix with backpackers.

WHERE TO SPEND THE MORNING

Circular Quay

Start with a healthy veggie breakfast at Iku Whole food (25a Glebe Point Rd.) and then hop on a bus down to Circular Quay. The city centre is compact and the historic quarters The Rocks, the stunning Opera house and the Royal Botanic Gardens are all within a comfortable stroll.

WHERE TO LUNCH

The Shop on the Hop

I would get some take out food from The Shop on the Hop at Mrs Macquaries Point in the Royal Botanical gardens and munch on it in the shade of a gigantic tropical tree with the best harbour view in the world. I'd advise meat eaters to continue to the verandahs of the Botanic Gardens restaurant.

WHERE TO SPEND THE AFTERNOON

Taronga zoo
taronga.org.au

I'd get the ferry to Sydney's Taronga zoo. A zoo pass ($49.50, adult) includes return ferry ticket, zoo entry, bus transfer and sky safari. My apologies to fuzzy indigenous creatures, the highlight is the 3 p.m. daily Free Flight Bird Show with a stunning Sydney Harbour backdrop.

HOW TO SPEND THE NIGHT

The Rocks Pub Tour
therocks.com

With some luck I'll be back at Circular Quay for The Rocks Pub Tour, a way to learn more about Sydney's early days of convicts, whalers and sailors and wash it down with local brews like Tooheys (Australians don't drink Fosters at home).

WHERE TO HAVE DINNER

Zaffran
zasffran.com

Then it's off to the sparkling lights of Darling Harbour and divine Indian food at award winning Zaffran.

(Set menu: three courses, $31.50) Darling Harbour is Sydney's favourite dining, drinking and entertainment playground and a short cab ride back to Glebe.

METRO WORLDN NEWS

Touring Sydney Harbour is a relaxing way to introduce yourself to Australia.

METRO WORLDN NEWS

The Botanical Gardens have a great view of Sydney Harbour.

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Embracing Ibiza's night life

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World NEws

Ibiza and its legendary dancefloors have been the undisputed king of cool vacations for a quarter of a century.

Here's what to do as the sun goes down

WHERE TO LUNCH
Es Torrents
(estorrent.net)

As one of the island's best seafood (and seafront) restaurants, Es Torrents offers no-fuss classics, including gambas, lobster and tuna as well as the catch of the day. Sip a crisp white wine as you dip you toes in the sea after a relaxing lunch.

WHERE TO SPEND THE AFTERNOON
Salinas Beach
jockeyclubibiza.com

The select shore of Salinas is where the beautiful come to bathe.

Get yourself a sun lounger at hip beach bar Jockey Club Ibiza and order up a cocktail as you listen to the DJ spin classic summer hits while you slip into party mode.

WHERE TO HAVE DINNER
Las Dos Lunas
lasdoslunas.com

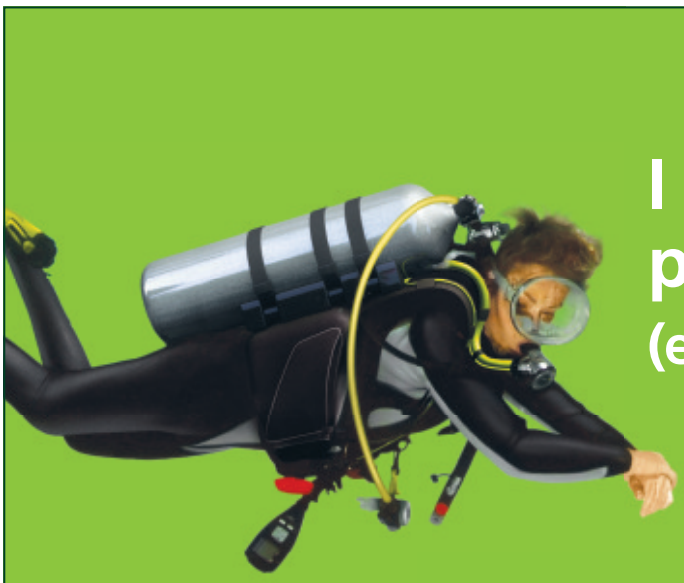
Let the bougainvillea and vines conceal you as you dine at the secluded Dos Lunas. Food is a fusion of Mediterranean cuisine, mainly Italian, featuring pallet-pleasers such as focaccia (baked in the outdoor wood fire oven), chocolate mousse and ice cream.

HOW TO SPEND THE NIGHT
Pacha
pacha.com

Forty years of sleepless nights and Pacha club hasn't a wrinkle to show for it. The heart and soul of Ibiza's party scene, the rule is to dance until your feet can't take it anymore. On your way home, stop at Croissant Show for strawberry, foie gras and champagne.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Start your night off right by dining at Las Dos Lunas.



I paid for a resort in paradise with TD Points
(even the scuba lessons).

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METRO WORLD NEWS

Washington isn't cheap but there are budget options.

Find a capital full of class in Washington

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

Washington, D.C., is the beating heart of American politics which makes it a fascinating place to visit. Lucky it also has some of the world's best hotels and restaurants.

Here's how to visit it on a budget.

EAT
$50 or less
Beacon Bar & Grill

Supercool eatery based on 1930s ocean liner with rooftop Martini Sky-Bar with great city views. The menu, like Saturday nights lobster/crab fest at $28 seems ridiculously good value.

(bbgwdc.com)

$100 or less
Cityzen

Award-winning chef Eric Ziebold cooks up modern American with the best of them.

Throw in the DC cool set and a fiendishly clever wine list — its hard not to be impressed.

mandarinoriental.com

STAY
$50 or less
The Allen Lee

We looked. There aren't any hotels available for less than $50 a night.

But, look, this is the political capital of the world and hotels aren't cheap — even this one charges more than $75 a night and the online reviews are, well, mixed to say the least.

2224 F St. NW, Washington DC

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The Melrose Hotel

Nice real American hotel with a quality feel to it. Rooms are big and airy and the bar and restaurant are great for people watching.

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Book a value-packed hotel vacation package with JetBlue Getaways in Florida staring June 16 at jetblue.com/vacations. Guests will receive a free, customized Beach Chic vacation starter kit. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Seeing Europe on two wheels

Metro finds the best cycling tours available across the pond

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

METRO WORLD NEWS

The Turquoise Coast Cycle tour offers some of the best views of Europe.

METRO WORLD NEWS

You can island hop with Adriatic Islands Cycle tour.

Sometimes the very best way to get a real feel for a country is to take to two wheels and get around under your own steam.

You're not insulated like in a car, and you aren't restricted to someone else's agenda as with public transport. And, as any cyclist will tell you, a biking holiday will get you talking to the locals like nothing else.

Here are our current favourites.

ALPINE CYCLE

An Alpine cycling adventure without the pain. Head for the Salzburger lakeland, where you'll get the fresh air and the scenery but little of the uphill agony.

The routes tend to be trace gentle loops around shorelines of Fuschlsee and Wolfgangsee.

Attractions include the cog railway up Schafberg, the Mozart museum in St Gilgen and the church in Mondsee, which played a starring role in The Sound of Music. A good base is the Salzburger Dolomitenhof Hotel which is offering three day tours from $159.

ADRIATIC ISLANDS CYCLE

With 1,185 offshore islands scattered in clear blue water along a complicated 1,104-mile coastline a boat an bike combo is a fascinating and thrilling way to explore the region.

Try the one-week, 15 stop Island Hopping by Bicycle in Central and Southern Dalmatia tour at adriatica.net

TURQUOISE COAST CYCLE

There are few better ways to experience the beauty of the Gökova Region and get closer to Aegean culture than on two wheels. Try the Akyaka Weekly Bike Tour, a fairly easy cycle suitable for a family holiday. Riders set out from Akyaka before cycling into many traditional villages and bazaars and enjoying breathtaking views over Sedir Island and the Gökova Gulf.

Cost: $195 (accommodation extra) with Turkish Turquoise Coast Guide at turkuaz-guide.net

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Swim with the fishes

Mexico's Third Annual Whale Shark Festival.kicks off July 16 in Isla Mujeres, Quintana Roo, Mexico. Visitors will be encouraged to swim with the fishes in the latest tours. Find out more at cevichetours.com. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Noise drifts away behind these headphones

Whether you're trying to drown out the sound of the rain battering your tent on a windswept moor or just trying to silence the baby in row 15 who's been screaming since take-off, a decent pair of headphones can be a traveller's best friend.

We've picked out our winners in each price band.

UNDER $50

Sennheiser CX-300-II

sennheiser.com

These are not really noise-cancelling headphones but they are just so stunningly good that they have to be in.

Swap the lame headphones bundled with your MP3 and you'll feel you've been listening to your favourite tracks through cotton wool. Buckets-full of thumping bass and spine-tingling detail together with super-exciting timing and dynamics make these headphones probably the best value piece of hi-fi available. A steal.

UNDER $100

Altec Lansing Backbeat Titanium

(Alteclansing.com)

Another pair of noise-isolators rather than noise-cancellers that turn in a fine sonic performance.

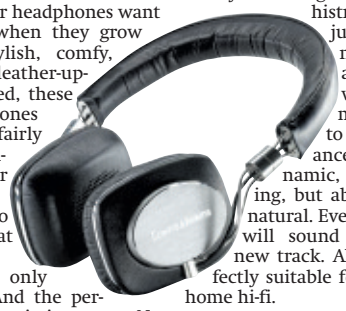
The four pairs of neoprene ear-tips include one with extra wide flange which helps block out the outside world. But the sound is the key here. The 10Hz — 20kHz frequency response really digs deep into those bass notes and the top end just sparkles. A top find.

UNDER $250

B & W P5

(bowers-wilkins.com)

The daddy of headphones for music on the move. The P5's are what all other headphones want to be when they grow up. Stylish, comfy, and leather-upholstered, these headphones are fairly substantial for travel but do fold flat and weigh only 195g. And the performance is immense. No showy but tiring high end histrionics just the music as it was meant to be, balanced, dynamic, exciting, but above all natural. Every song will sound like a new track. Also perfectly suitable for your home hi-fi.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

[1]To redeem TD Points for travel purchases charged to your Card that are not booked through the TD Travel Rewards Centre (the "Centre"), Cardholder must contact the Centre after the travel purchase has been posted to the Account and within 90 days from the transaction date of the travel purchase. The required TD Points will be redeemed from the TD Points balance available on the date TD Points are redeemed for the travel purchase, not the transaction date of the travel purchase. The amount that will be credited toward the travel purchase will be equal to the value of the TD Points redeemed. If there are insufficient TD Points available to cover the entire amount of the travel purchase, the Account will only be credited by the value of the TD Points redeemed. Any amount of the travel purchase not covered by the TD Points redeemed will remain on the Account for payment. [2] Applies to new TD First Class Travel *Visa Infinite* Accounts only. Bonus TD Points will be awarded to the new Account upon approval. Offer may be changed, extended or withdrawn at any time without notice and cannot be combined with any other offer. *Trade-mark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Battle the crowds, Florence is worth the wait.

Learn why Florence continues to flourish

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

This Italian gem is a chianti classic. Metro finds the places and spaces to visit.

IT'S MY FIRST TIME — WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Although most places are swarming with tourists, some are a must, no matter how long the ticket queue. Gape in awe at the genius that is Brunelleschi's Cathedral, 'Duomo' and then shuffle your way through the camera-clad crowd to Michelangelo's ethereal marble statue of the biblical hero 'David' and don't miss the Ponte Vecchio bridge.

I'VE BEEN BEFORE — WHAT SHOULD I TRY?

The Uffizi Gallery is one of the most important centres for Renaissance art with work by Raphael, Michelangelo and Titian. For sweeping views of the Arno Valley and dome-studded city head to the hilltops over at Piazzale Michelangelo.

WHERE CAN I SHOP?

Mercato Centrale (Via del Ariento) is paradise for foodies. Wonderful local produce including balsamic vinegar, olive oil, and cheese is magnificently stacked at each stall. If you want to get serious head to Via Turnabuoni for classic Italian labels such as Prada, Pucci and Gucci.

WHAT'S THE NIGHTLIFE LIKE?

Fabio Picchi's Teatro del Sale is an eclectic combination of theatre, trattoria and member's clubs is a great place to spend the night. On stage, you might find yourself listening to a poetry reading, musical or piano set.

Traversing Tanzania's wildlife

Metro finds safari's that won't cost you an arm and a leg

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

Adventurous Tanzanian travellers often head to the sprawling Serengeti. But Metro wanted to get off the beaten track even more and explored the southern Highlands.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Elephants are a common sight on any tour of Tanzanian national parks.

Here's what we found.

RUAHA NATIONAL PARK

Locals often cite Ruaha as their favourite national park. More than 10,000 square kilometres of beautiful hilly landscape is the home to elephants, hyenas, African wild dogs, leopards and the bat-eared fox.

The special thing about Ruaha is the topographic variation — from vast plains, to rocky mountains and placid lakes. And the ever-present baobab trees tower mysterious and aloof above all of these landscapes.

Spending the night in a national park is extremely expensive. You can easily pay a thousand dollars per night. If you get a lodge just outside the park, you save yourself a lot of money and you are still sleeping in the wilderness. If you're not in the mood to arrange things yourself then contact the friendly staff of Gazelle Safaris for a package-deal (gazellesafaris.com).

UDZUNGWA MOUNTAINS

You can't return home without having visited the Udzungwa Mountains. This national park was opened in 1992 by Dutch royal Prince Bernhard. He personally walked the trail which is now known as the Prince Bernhard Waterfall Trail. This walk is, understandably, the shortest route possible, because when Prince Bernhard opened the park at the age of 82, his old legs couldn't take him to the top of the mountains anymore.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Bring a guide with you if you're going to traverse waterfalls.

TIRED OF SAFARIS?

Travel further south, towards Lake Nyasa (also known as Lake Malawi). On Matema beach you can perfectly relax in the shade of a tree with a cold bottle of cola breaking off only for an occasional soothing dip in the lake. Be careful with boat trips though — on the water there's a risk of serious sunburn. Once you've rested enough, it's time to visit the waterfall in the mountains. Don't attempt it without a guide as there is no path and access requires much scrambling over rocks and trees and plants, which can be tough for inexperienced climbers. However, once you reach the waterfall, you'll see it was definitely worth your trouble. More than 30m of water splashes down into a lagoon where you can jump in to cool off from the hike.

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Alaska Air + 1 Night + 7-Night Cruise + 3-Night Tour $1789
Diamond Princess + taxes & fees $346
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Stieg stories discovered
Two early science fiction stories by the late crime novelist Stieg Larsson have been uncovered at the Swedish National Library in Stockholm. Library spokesman Hakan Farje says it received the two short stories as a private donation in 2007. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Entertainment

Most Wanted
Entertainment Weekly is reporting Canadian Ryan Reynolds is reteaming with his The Proposal co-star, Sandra Bullock, for an action comedy with the working title Most Wanted.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Soldiers of fortune

The A-Team remake ready to rip up the big screen

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Bradley Cooper readily admits his favourite part of making the big-screen adaptation of The A-Team was working with Liam Neeson. The Oscar-nominated actor, who plays team leader Hannibal opposite Cooper's Face, elevated the entire production, he insists.

"You can't really argue with the talent and ability and experience, which is what he brought to the movie," Cooper says. "It's like if you step on a court with Michael Jordan, the court's going to feel different. He raised everyone's game."

But Neeson is quick to point out he had some learning to do himself, especially when it came to improvisation — something Cooper does a lot. One particular day of shooting comes to mind for Neeson: "This scene starts that's not on the page," he remembers. "Bradley starts this improv, and I'm going, 'What the hell is this? What is going on?' And then it would come to my line, and I'd forget my line because I was so busy watching Bradley and (director) Joe (Carnahan) getting off on each other. So it was terrifying, the first few days. I can't do that s—. I'm an old traditionalist. I like to learn my lines and deliver them."

The A-Team opens Friday

Improvisation aside, Neeson speaks highly of the experience of making The A-Team — but he also admits there were drawbacks to working on such a big project. "It's a big studio movie, and of course there's a lot of studio input," Neeson says. "Every time we changed a semicolon, a comma, of course it had to be passed through the studio. That would get frustrating, personally speaking. Very frustrating."

For mixed martial arts fighter Quinton "Rampage" Jackson, stepping into the role of B.A. Baracus made famous by Mr. T was a point of honor more than anything else.

"There's no way I was going to come and try and outdo Mr. T," Jackson says. "I figured that if I just be myself and put myself in there, maybe the fans will accept me, because I'm such a big fan."

With The A-Team being Jackson's first major movie role, he could be excused for being a little nervous going up against the likes of Neeson and Cooper. But he managed to keep his cool, he insists — except once.

"It's like if you step on a court with Michael Jordan, the court's going to feel different. (Neeson) raised everyone's game."
Bradley Cooper

"My first scene working with Liam, when he carjacked me in the van, scared the living daylights out of me," Jackson says. "I'm from the hood. I've been shot at before, I've had a gun put to my head. But Liam scared the hell out of. He put this gun to my head, and I almost pissed myself."

Rounding out the team is South African actor Sharlto Copley, the breakout star of last year's District 9, who signed on to play loose-cannon pilot Murdoch. Possibly the biggest fan of the series in the cast, Copley found making The A-Team almost like a vacation. District 9 was very grueling, and the role was quite heavy at times emotionally. I found this actually very easy," he says, comparing the two films. "My part was the smallest of the four, so I had a lot of downtime in my trailer. I had lemurs visiting in my trailer, and had them turn it into a little petting zoo. I mean, these things you do on these big movies."

Bradley Cooper, from left, Sharlto Copley, Liam Neeson and Quinton "Rampage" Jackson star in The A-Team.

Gary Coleman

Coleman wanted media barred from funeral

PEOPLE Gary Coleman's will names a friend and former manager as executor of the late child star's estate and specifies that he wanted to be cremated.

The will was filed in 4th District Court in Provo, Utah where Coleman, 42, died May 28 after suffering a brain hemorrhage. Coleman appointed friend Dion Mial as his executor.

Coleman says in the 1999 will that he wanted to be remembered in a wake conducted by people who had no financial ties to the Diff'rent Strokes star. He also wanted none of the media that followed Coleman's legal, financial, health and marriage troubles through his adult life to be allowed to attend.

"I direct my personal representative to permit no members of the press to be present at my wake or funeral," he stated in the will.

Not mentioned in the will is ex-wife Shannon Price, whom Coleman was still years from meeting when he wrote the will. Coleman met Price on a movie set in 2006. The couple married in 2007 and divorced in 2008.

A representative says Price believes she has a claim to the estate and planned to meet a lawyer. Although the couple was divorced, they lived together in Santaquin, about 100 kilometres south of Salt Lake City. It was Price who ordered that Coleman be taken off of life support.

Mial, who did not immediately return messages seeking comment, accused Price of trying to profit from Coleman's death and the publicity it has created.

The story has developed in less than two weeks into the kind of tabloid fodder Coleman grew to loath in his post-stardom life. He stated in the will that after his remains are cremated, he would like a private wake "conducted by those who have had no financial ties to me and can look each other in the eyes and say they really cared personally for Gary Coleman."

"I direct my personal representative to permit no members of the press to be present at my wake or funeral."
Gary Coleman

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bennett honoured this year

The late Toronto-born singer-songwriter Willie P. Bennett is among the artists who will be inducted into the Canadian Country Music Hall of Honour at this year's CCMAs. Nominees for this year's CCMAs will be announced July 28. THE CANADIAN PRESS

McCoy puts dark tunes aside

Travie McCoy is a happy dude.

The six-foot-five frontman of Gym Class Heroes exudes a cheery attitude; he even glows about sitting in a comfortable chair.

"This is the first time I've sat in a chair where I can wiggle my feet. This is so awesome," McCoy, 28, says with a huge smile during an interview. "I feel like a little kid."

That kind of jovial attitude is all over his solo debut, Lazarus, out this week. But McCoy acknowledges that the album didn't start off with that mood.

"A lot of the songs, they all had kind of a dark tone to them and they were really sad and sombre," he said. "I didn't want it to go down that road. So I kind of reevaluated everything and I kind of put a lot of those songs to the side."

McCoy — who's going by his nickname Travie, instead of Travis, so listeners feel more connected to him — moved to Miami to record most of the album, which features T-Pain, Cee-Lo, Travis Barker and newcomer Bruno Mars.

Gym Class Heroes frontman Travie McCoy is releasing his upbeat solo debut, Lazarus, this week.

Q Why was the record initially a dark one?

A It's just where I was at mentally. Art imitates life and I tend to write a lot about my experiences and things I been through. And at the time I was going through a lot (in) my personal life. There was a lot of crazy stuff going on in my family, there was a couple deaths. All that was kind of creeping its way into the music and I was like, 'I need to stop this right now.' I've been known to kind of wear my heart on my sleeve so to speak, and I've been pretty vulnerable with the last few records that we put out with Gym Class Heroes. And this time around, I just wanted it to be fun.

Q Was it therapeutic to record the upbeat material?

A I think it was more therapeutic to get that darker stuff out, you know what I mean? Getting all that out and you know, that was kind of my woosah. That's all out and it just made way for more positive and uptempo and happier songs.

Q Why did you want to do a solo CD?

A We all had, you know, projects outside of Gym Class Heroes, other musical outlets that we used to express ourselves musically. This is just one being put out on a bigger scale, you know, for public consumption. It wasn't necessarily meticulously plotted by the record label or something, you know, to get Gym Class Heroes in a necessary position and toss me out there as a solo artist.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEED SOME WATERCOOLER TALK?
Visit metronews.ca to watch metrotube of the day

Ace plans to Kiss and tell
A Kiss and tell memoir is coming from Ace Frehley, former lead guitarist of the heavy metal band. No Regrets is a look back at a "life of sex, drugs, and rock-and-roll." Gallery, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, plans to release in the summer of 2011. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tokyo Police Club fights on

Retired 'buzz band' had fun making new album Champ

CAM LINDSAY
for Metro Canada

There's a fine line between buzz and hype. No band knows this better than Tokyo Police Club.

After taking the indie rock community by storm in 2006 with their debut EP, A Lesson In Crime, the Newmarket-bred/Toronto-based four-piece found themselves trying to battle the overwhelming hype that came with their first full-length with 2008's Elephant Shell.

Though it was a solid album, the band's decision to subdue the frenetic nature of their EP and ripen their songwriting skills caught many people off guard. "Going into Elephant Shell, we had never made a full record and as such had no idea how much time it would take to write and record one," admits singer/bassist David Monks. "Plus we had sparse time between tours and three weeks to make the record. We all put a higher price on time off now. The tours are still gonna be there."

The hectic experience prepared the band for when it came time to make their second album with producer Rob Schnapf (Elliott Smith, Beck). Titled Champ, Monks says the pressure was off now, especially because they had retired from their "buzz band" tenure.

"Champ was fun. We just did whatever felt good and didn't worry about things. When we were writing it we were at home and there wasn't all of this anticipation. There wasn't a build up with this album, which left us in a good headspace. I think we all consider Elephant Shell to be our sophomore record, so with this one there wasn't any of the 'second record' stress."

Champ is the new album from Tokyo Police Club.

Listeners may not hear a monumental leap in the band's sound on Champ, but the extra time they took to make cleared up any confusion there may have been about the type of music Tokyo Police Club were making.

"The whole writing process of Champ was less self-aware than Elephant Shell," explains Monks. "We felt like we didn't have a sound we needed to fit into. With Elephant Shell, I think we fell back on that."

Instead of trying to live up to the multifarious genre tags and descriptors the music received after their debut (Monks singles out "laser guitars" as a laughable favourite), Tokyo Police Club realized the wisest thing they could do was stay faithful to their own brand of fizzy indie rock. Champ is a testament to this consciousness.

Add Monks, "The reality is, when you find that new style or sound, whatever it is, half the people out there are still just going to say it sounds like 'good ol' TPC!' Music is a funny thing."

"There wasn't a build up with this album, which left us in a good headspace. I think we all consider Elephant Shell to be our sophomore record, so with this one there wasn't any of the 'second record' stress."
David Monks

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Rule told to book court date

A court is telling Ja Rule to book a date in New York City this summer — for a trial in his three-year-old gun case. A Manhattan judge yesterday set an Aug. 18 trial date for Ja Rule, whose real name is Jeffrey Atkins. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rocking the CMTAs

Host musician promises viewers an 'awesome' party

Kid Rock won't be too far out of his comfort zone as host of the Country Music Television Awards. It will be kind of like throwing a party.

"They're just kind of loose and fun, and they're geared that way — to have fun," he said of tonight's event, to be aired live on the network from Nashville's Bridgestone Arena.

"You go to the Grammys, and it's very serious. You're just like, 'Man, everyone lighten up a little bit. It's fun. It's music. Let's celebrate,'" he said. "And that's just kind of the atmosphere at the CMT Awards, just really laid back, really fun, got some over-the-top performances, a little riff raff here and there. It just creates for a good atmosphere, good time."

Kid Rock wouldn't reveal too much of what's going to happen during the show, but he did offer up a possible scenario.

"There will probably be (a moment) where I propose to Kellie Pickler," he said. "She'll immediately dump me as I'm flirting with Carrie Underwood. I'll probably be smacked by Miranda Lambert for the whole fiasco. Then me and Jamey Johnson will go get drunk."

When informed that Lambert is now engaged to fellow country artist Blake Shelton, Kid replied, "I'm not messing with Blake or Miranda. I'm actually more scared of Miranda."

"There will probably be (a moment) where I propose to Kellie Pickler... She'll immediately dump me as I'm flirting with Carrie Underwood."
Kid Rock, CMT Awards host

Back in April, he announced on his website that he would be hosting the CMT Awards by writing, "All I can promise is I will be awesome."

Asked how he would live up to that promise, he smirked and said, "This is where the cocky me comes out. ... How could I not be awesome?"

Even though he is known to many for his rock music, over the years he has made Nashville a second home through collaborations with artists including the Zac Brown Band, Willie Nelson and Gretchen Wilson.

Unlike many artists from other genres who occasionally try to crossover into country music, fans and artists seem to have embraced Kid Rock. His 2008 song All Summer Long was a top five hit on the country singles chart, and the video won a CMT Award last year. He also taped an episode of CMT Crossroads with Hank Williams Jr. in 2001 and had a country hit in 2002 with the song Picture, sung with Sheryl Crow.

"I'd like to say it's because I'm skinny. I'm cute. I'm fun at parties, but I don't think that's the real reason," he said of his appeal to country listeners. "I think it boils down to the music, maybe the honesty if I had to take a guess."

Besides his hosting duties, Kid Rock will also be performing on the show. thers in the lineup include Tim McGraw, Brad Paisley, the Zac Brown Band, Toby Keith, Lady Antebellum, Miranda Lambert, Carrie Underwood, Jamey Johnson, LeAnn Rimes, Keith Urban and John Mayer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Country Music Television Awards air tonight

CHRIS PIZZELLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Polley among latest Walk of Fame inductees

AWARDS Stars will be minted for Sarah Polley, Nelly Furtado, Eric McCormack, Farley Mowat, Clara Hughes, David Clayton-Thomas and the late Doug Henning, named Tuesday as this year's inductees to Canada's Walk of Fame.

Established in 1998, the annual awards recognize achievements in music, sport, film and television, as well as the literary, visual and performing arts, and science and innovation.

The program is also designed to encourage young Canadians to think big, said president Peter Soumalias.

"(We) celebrate these extraordinary Canadians and through that celebration encourage the next generation of talent to also follow their dream," Soumalias said.

"They all have a common denominator, and that common denominator is a passion for their art as well as following their dream."

Polley, a filmmaker and actress, has appeared in dozens of films and TV shows, including Splice, a sci-fi horror movie that's currently getting great reviews. McCormack is best known for his role on TV's Will and Grace and also has an extensive filmography, as well as a background in theatre.

Furtado has won a Grammy and half a dozen Juno Awards and has topped the charts with several singles. Clayton-Thomas fronted Blood, Sweat and Tears during part of the band's career, including the release of its second self-titled album. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Filmmaker Sarah Polley.

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Science series tackles tough questions about the universe

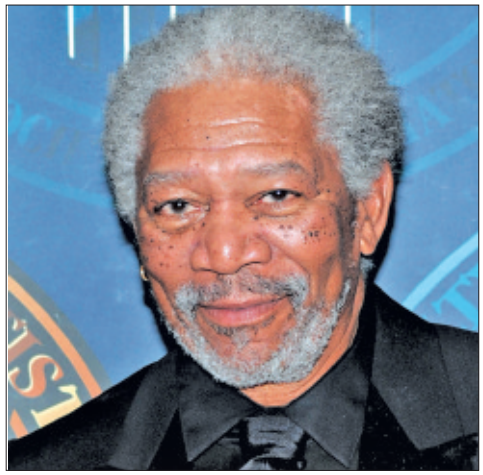
Actor Morgan Freeman didn't shy away from tough questions for his new Science Channel series about space exploration. On today's first episode he asks, "Was there a Creator?"

The question, as with most of the topics he discusses on the eight-episode series, is more likely to lead to more questions than it is to answers.

"What we're learning is we don't know a lot more than we do know," said Freeman, whose lifelong fascination with astronomy and space travel coincided with the Science Channel's effort to attract more attention to itself with the help of celebrities who bring a passion to their hobbies.

The Academy Award winner hosts and narrates the series, Through the Wormhole, and it was made by his production company.

Scientists are tapped to address issues like what happened before the creation of the universe, what dark matter is doing to the galaxies, whether time travel will someday be possible, what intelligent life might exist beyond Earth and how life began on Earth.



GETTY IMAGES

Morgan Freeman — who often plays God onscreen — asks scientists the tough questions in his new Science Channel series.

The idea of a God that created the universe is hard for many scientists to deal with, but one that some turn to when not everything they see is explained by the complex mathematical equations used to prove theories.

"It is hard for me to get my mind wrapped around the idea that there is an extra, corporal — shall we say, intelligence — that controls everything," Freeman said.

Freeman is intrigued by the speed of light and how and why light travels. The idea of time travel is another interest, although the actor isn't sure whether he'd like to go backward or forward. Similarly, he'd love to travel in space someday. But he doesn't want to just go for a ride.

"I'd like to have a destination," he said, "and I'd like that destination being a foreign land where there are things we could possibly communicate with. Just wandering around out there — you might as well be out in the ocean trying to swim."

The issues discussed in Through the Wormhole are "heady stuff," but they're presented in an entertaining way, said the network's general manager.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TO	Vu	SD	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 6/9/10	265	353	2	TVO	Tiger Island	Tiger Island	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Murder "Journalist"		China Blue		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House		Glee		The Brothel Project (N)		News Hour
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	22 Minutes	Laughs	NHL Hockey Stanley Cup Final, Game 6 -- Chicago Blackhawks at Philadelphia Flyers.						National
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		America's Got Talent (N)		America's Got Talent		Modern Family	Cougar Town	News
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Access H.	So You Think You Can Dance (HDTV) (N)				CSI: NY (HDTV)		CTV News
	218	345	11	CHCH	*Dude, Where's My Car?* ★ (2000, Comedy)		*Ride With the Devil* ★★★ (1999, Historical Drama) Skeet Ulrich, Jewel.						News at 11 (N)
	-	-	14	-	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Old Christine	The Insider (N)	Forensic Factor "Betrayed"		*Not My Life* (2006, Suspense) Meredith Monroe.				Dream Car
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Access H.	How I Met	Engagement	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17	NBC	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	NHL Hockey Stanley Cup Final, Game 6 -- Chicago Blackhawks at Philadelphia Flyers.						News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Middle	The Middle	Modern Family	Cougar Town	(10:01) Happy Town		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Canada's Worst Driver		Old Christine	The Middle	Happy Town (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order: SVU		A News
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance (HDTV) (N)				Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	PBS NewsHour	Wait for God	John Denver Rocky Mountain High			Live From Lincoln Center Violinist Joshua Bell performs.			
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model		America's Next Top Model		PIX News at Ten (N)		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: SVU		WBZ News (N)	What's-Store	Frasier	Frasier	The Office
	298	653	332	TLA	The Tyra Show		According-Jim	Family Guy	News at 6	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Top Model
news	502	390	26	NW	The Lang & O'Leary Exchange		Connect with Mark Kelley (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33	CNN	John King, USA (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV) (N)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report (N)		House of Cards				American Greed		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Tampa Bay Rays. (HDTV) (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
	400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey! Playoff Edition		Boxing Mayweather vs. Mosley & Cintron vs. Williams.				SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	411	457	58	OLN	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth		Operate-Repo	Operate-Repo	UFO Hunters		Destin. Truth
	417	406	81	SC	NASCAR Smart	NASCAR Hub	Pass Time	Pass Time	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Wrecked	Wrecked	Pass Time
family	551	542	25	YTV	That's-Weird	Family Biz	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	Survive This	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
	554	544	45	TEL	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	556	540	51	FAM	Sonny-Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Aaron Stone	That's-Raven
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Kim	How Clean	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Cupcake Girls	Cupcake Girls	*Nightwaves* (2003, Drama) Sherilyn Fenn.		
	570	580	29	MM	When I Was 17	When I Was 17	disBAND	Video on Trial	VideoFlow				UR11
	615	520	31	A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Exterminator	Exterminator	Exterminator
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Doppia Indagine				George Lopez	George Lopez	Lopez Tonight
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		mmtop10.ca		Family Jewels	Family Jewels	The O.C.
	575	583	38	CMT	Lady Antebellum: One on One		2010 CMT Music Awards Celebrating the best videos in country music. (Live)					Lady	Lady Antebellum
	616	521	39	SHO	Tom Stone (Part 2 of 6)		*Every Second Counts* (2008, Drama) Stephen Collins.				*Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber*		
	620	523	40	BVO	From the Spirit	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan Files	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar (Part 1 of 2)		Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Rich Bride Poor Bride		In Laws	In Laws	End/Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	MysteryQuest (HDTV)		Ice Road Truckers (N)		Nostradamus Effect		Outlaw Bikers
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore Show	Hot Box	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Bang, Buck	Property Shop	Flipping Out		House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes/Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	*Grosse Pointe Blank* ★★★ (1997, Romance-Comedy)				Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Law & Order
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		Tiny & Toya	Tiny & Toya	*Truth Hall* (2008, Drama) Jade-Jenise Dixon.				Mo'Nique
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Doctor Who		Merlin (DVS)		Medium "Psych"		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	The City	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Downtown Grls	The City	The City	After	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Colin and Justin on the Estate		Hoarders		Runaway Squad (N)		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	TV -Torrens
	603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	Eat, Shrink	Challenge		Restaurant Makeover		Chopped "Fired Up!"		Chef School
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		No Place Like	Hallelujah!	Kingdom		ideaCity	Twist of Faith	Doc
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (HDTV)		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Waybuloo	Toopy & Binoo	Franklin	Dino	Little Bear	Toopy & Binoo	Max & Ruby
	526	507	249	VIVA	Cold Case		Missing "Truth or Dare"		Medium		Cold Case		Mediums
	300	601	301	M1	*Pandorum*	(7:25) *Eating Buccaneers* (2008)			*G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra* ★ (2009, Action)				*Star Trek*
	305	612	306	PIX	*Joshua Then and Now* ★★★ (1985, Comedy-Drama)				*Queen of the Damned* ★ (2002, Horror)			(10:45) *Mercury Rising*	
	520	146	-	DISC	Daily Planet (N)		Mighty Ships (N)		Deadliest Catch		Mayday		Daily Planet
	637	-	-	TVLND	Red Green	Red Green	Fantasy Island		Hart to Hart		Andy Griffith	Phil Silvers	Bizarre
	605	-	-	FASH	Look-A-Like	Look-A-Like	FashionTele	RAW	FT Found Footage		Australia's Next Top Model		Top Model

critics' corner

CSI: NY

When a recovering drug addict with a lot to live for is found dead in an alley, Mac (Gary Sinise) and the team learn he may have been the victim of a premeditated plot in "Second Chances." Vanessa Minnillo, Kim Kardashian, Lala Vazquez and Pat Monahan of the Grammy-winning group Train guest star; Melina Kanakaredes, Carmine Giovinazzo, Hill Harper and Eddie Cahill also star. 10 PM on CTV, CBS

The Brothel Project

You may not think about the world's oldest profession the same way again after watching this documentary. It chronicles the efforts of activist and journalist Jody Paterson and retired sex worker Lauren Casey to challenge prevailing attitudes and laws and open a cooperative brothel — a safe workplace for those in Victoria's now-underground sex industry. They're joined by a working prostitute and a booking agent who share their vision. 10 PM on GTV

Attention: all aspiring TV hosts

TELEVISION Oprah Winfrey wants to give an undiscovered talent a chance to follow in her footsteps on her new cable network.

The talk show host is teaming up with reality TV producer Mark Burnett on a show searching for the next big TV personality. Your Own Show: Oprah's Search for the Next TV Star will air on the Oprah Winfrey Network beginning in January, the same month of OWN's launch.

Winfrey is ending The Oprah Winfrey Show in September 2011 after 25 seasons.

In a phone interview from Los Angeles, Burnett — the man behind such shows as Survivor and The Apprentice — said the premise fits perfectly into what people like to watch: Regular people achieving extraordinary things.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

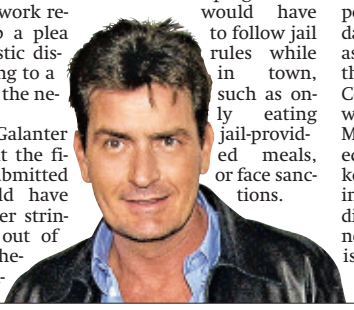
Striptease star will continue to expose herself
Demi Moore, an actress famous for showing all, will now tell all. HarperCollins announced Monday that it had acquired a "candid" memoir by the raspy-voiced star. The book will cover her life and career and is tentatively scheduled for release in 2012. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Celebrity Buzz

Small details hamper Charlie's plea bargain

WHILE EQUAL JUSTICE GOES UP IN SMOKE A disagreement over the terms of Charlie Sheen's proposed work release has held up a plea deal in the domestic dispute case, according to a lawyer involved in the negotiations.

Attorney Yale Galanter said yesterday that the final paperwork submitted to a judge would have placed Sheen under stringent rules while out of jail working at the atre company, including not being able to smoke. Under the useful service program, he would have to follow jail rules while in town, such as only eating jail-provided meals, or face sanctions.



The jail also offers less strict work release arrangements, allowing people to report to their day jobs and essentially act as regular citizens during the day. However, Pitkin County sheriff's spokeswoman Deputy Marie Munday said that's intended for locals who need to keep their jobs while serving time. She said Sheen didn't qualify because he's not a resident with an existing job.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV star opens up about bisexuality

STANDING UP FOR THE RIGHTS OF VAMPIRES WORLDWIDE After sneaking the revelation that she is bisexual into a public service announcement in April, Anna Paquin is opening up about the issue. "It wasn't like it was a big secret. It was just a cause I cared about and privately supported but not one that I had ever had an opportunity to speak out about in a way that would be useful," she tells Zap2it. "Obviously, as someone who identifies as bisexual, those are issues I really care about. And frankly, I don't see why everyone doesn't care about them," she says of Cyndi Lauper's True Colors Fund, which lobbies for equal rights issues.

The Oscar winner plays Sookie Stackhouse on hit HBO series True Blood, and is engaged to co-star Stephen Moyer.

METRO WORLD NEWS

A wedding fit for a superspy

SADLY, PULLING OFF A TOP SECRET AFFAIR LOSES HALF THE FUN IF NO ONE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE FIRST PLACE British actress and former Bond girl Gemma Arterton used some spy tricks of her own to pull off a top-secret wedding in Spain to fiancé Stefano Catelli, according to the Daily Mail. Guests reportedly weren't told the location when they answered their invitations.

As for her dress, Arterton recently told Instyle magazine, "There's this beautiful scene in (Franco) Zeffirelli's Romeo and Juliet where she runs out of the bedroom after a night with Romeo, and she's wrapped up in a sheet. She looks so gorgeous. My wedding gown is kind of like that."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Efron has Edward envy

LOOKS LIKE JACOB ISN'T THE ONLY MYTHICAL CREATURE JEALOUS OF VAMPIRES Zac Efron is reportedly bristling at the continued popularity of Twilight — and the franchise's leading man, Robert Pattinson. "Zac couldn't believe the amount of attention Robert got at the MTV Movie Awards," a source tells Popeater. "It was only yesterday that Zac was Hollywood's golden boy, enjoying making young girls scream. That didn't happen this year. All the girls wanted Robert and barely even noticed Zac."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Jackson pop demands more info on Michael's millions

BECAUSE MY CHEQUING ACCOUNT — ER, THE PUBLIC HAS THE RIGHT TO KNOW! Michael Jackson has reportedly earned more than $900 million US since his death last year, thanks to a lucrative deal his estate's executors made with Sony that included the concert film This Is It, according to the Daily Mirror. And his dad, Joe Jackson, wants to know more about the earnings. "They are being too secretive. The public has a right to know what the estate is doing in his name," Joe tells the newspaper.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Brown-out in U.K.

MAYBE THEY'RE JUST HUGE RIHANNA FANS Britain says U.S. singer Chris Brown has been denied entry into the United Kingdom, postponing his tour.

Brown had been scheduled to perform, but the British government said he had been refused a visa because of his past criminal record. Last year Brown was sentenced for the beating of his then-girlfriend, Rihanna.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lohan: 0, SCRAM: 1

NEXT ITEM FROM LINDSAY'S BIG BOOK O' IMPROBABLE EXCUSES: MY ANKLET WENT OFF FROM THE ALCOHOL VAPOURS OF OTHER PEOPLE'S DRINKS. WATCH FOR IT IN 3, 2... One night out with her SCRAM alcohol-monitoring anklet, and Lindsay Lohan is already having problems. The device started flashing during Katy Perry's MTV Movie Awards after-party, an eyewitness tells Star magazine. "All of a sudden, her SCRAM ankle bracelet started flashing furiously — bright red, fast flashes — right through her boot," the source says. "She wasn't drinking or doing drugs that I saw. She didn't seem fazed whatsoever. I mean it was very obvious."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

JESSICA SIMPSON makes the most important discovery of her life, **JOHN CUSACK** is trying to keep his eyes open, and **ELIZA DUSHKU** is trying to be the mature one

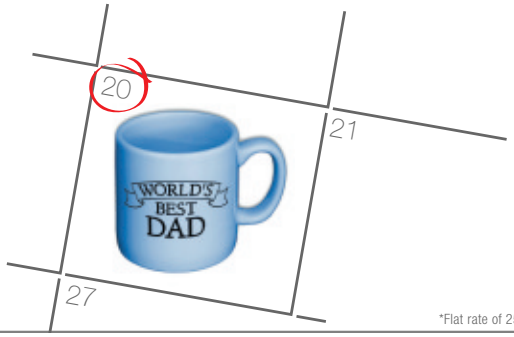
@JessicaSimpson I just might like Earth Balance more than butter thanks to one of my vegan friends

@johncusack friendship tour in china-- jetlagged and ready for anything ..

@elizadushku Peace & forgiveness to the snarky girl on Sunset Blvd I just called an 'idiot' who then called me a '$*!,;+?' in return. All good!

METRO NEWS SERVICES

What does he want for **Father's Day**?
Just call him.



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Thursday Partly cloudy 22° / 15°
Friday Mainly sunny 26° / 17°
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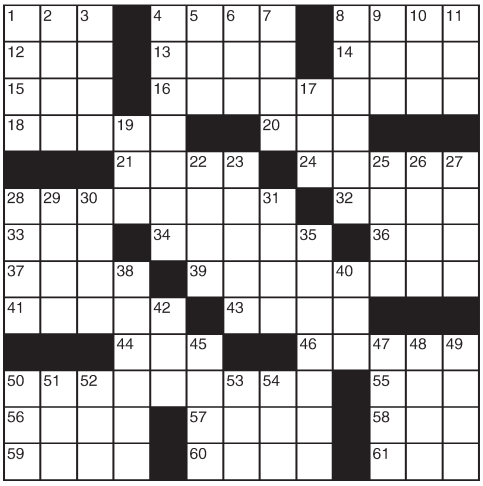

ACROSS

1 Outdated
4 Woodpecker's feature
8 Bullets and such
12 Long March leader
13 Hodgepodge
14 Fly high
15 Doctrine
16 Percussion instrument
18 Larceny
20 Atl. counterpart
21 Tress
24 Possibly
28 Greek historian
32 Christmas refrain
33 Previous night
34 Monica of tennis
36 Tibetan bovine
37 Approach
39 Yellow
41 Opening stakes
43 Antitoxins
44 Take blades to blades
46 Bring out
50 Fan of things foreign
55 Spacecraft compartment
56 "— Rhythm"
57 Tackle texts
58 Strange
59 Aching
60 Troubles
61 Unfavorable vote

DOWN

1 Leave out
2 Whip
3 Cupola
4 Redeemable proofs-of-purchase, once
5 Actor Ron
6 Have a bug
7 Former surgeon general
8 Refuse receptacle
9 Cattle call?
10 Fellow
11 Raw rock
17 Singer Tillis
19 "Alice" waitress
22 Cereal used in "party mix"
23 Caffeine-rich nuts
25 Toy on a string
26 Suitor
27 BPOE members
28 TV's "Warrior Princess"
29 Divisible by two
30 Tidy
31 Hawaiian goose
35 Thoroughfares
38 Distant
40 Possessed
42 Bribe
45 "That's a relief!"
47 "Once — a time, ..."
48 Last few notes
49 Vortex
50 Greek consonants
51 Id counterpart
52 Neither mate
53 Altar affirmative
54 Whopper

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

5			2		8			
2	3						7	4
	1			4		8		
	2		6	9				7
		3				6		
1				5	7		4	
		1		3			9	
3	7						1	2
			7		9			5

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

6	4	9	5	2	7	1	8	3
8	2	5	4	3	1	7	6	9
3	7	1	9	6	8	5	2	4
5	3	8	2	1	6	9	4	7
2	9	7	8	4	5	6	3	1
4	1	6	7	9	3	2	5	8
1	8	2	3	5	9	4	7	6
7	6	4	1	8	2	3	9	5
9	5	3	6	7	4	8	1	2

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

Tex-Mex Picadillo

INGREDIENTS:

500 g lean ground beef
2 cloves garlic, minced
540 ml can stewed tomatoes, undrained and cut up
1 medium-size apple, unpeeled and chopped
4 large green onions with tops, finely sliced
1/3 cup raisins
1/4 cup water
2 tbsp chopped pimento-stuffed green olives
1 tbsp minced pickled jalapeño
1 tbsp vinegar
1 tsp sugar
1/2 tsp celery seeds
1/2 tsp each ground cinnamon and ground cumin
1/4 tsp each salt and black pepper
1/8 tsp ground cloves

METHOD:

1. In skillet, cook ground beef and garlic over moderately high heat until meat is browned. Drain off fat.

2. Stir in tomatoes, apple, green onions, raisins, water, olives, jalapeño pepper, vinegar, sugar, celery seeds, cinnamon, cumin, salt, black pepper and cloves.

3. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, 20 minutes. Serve over hot cooked rice.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Today's cosmic picture promises a surprise of some sort, and while there is nothing to fear it might be wise to stay on good terms with family and friends.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You must stay impartial, no matter how committed you may be to a particular viewpoint or set of beliefs.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You would be wise not to believe everything you see and hear over the next 24 hours. Could it be that someone is trying to trick you?

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Why are some issues so hard to get your head around? Whatever the reason you will have to battle against chaos and confusion. It's a battle you can, and must, win.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You are not responsible for other people's failings, nor should you help them too much. The last thing you want is for them to come to rely on you.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Set yourself targets you know you will be able to reach and allow yourself plenty of time to relax. And don't panic if you find yourself behind schedule.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Your latest idea may be a great one but a friend or colleague can see something about it that you have missed.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Why do so many people insist on seeing only the negative side of your proposals? Don't let it worry you. You'll make it happen, with or without them.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
It is impossible for even an astrologer to predict how a certain situation will work itself out, so err on the side of caution.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You may not want to give someone a hard time over a mistake but if you let them get away with it they might make even bigger mistakes in the future.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Do you stick with what you know and trust or do you strike out in a radical and original direction? It's all about new.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
You seem to be of the opinion that nothing can possibly go wrong in your life and you are probably right. But don't take anything for granted.

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